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THE TIMES

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THE TIMES SERIAL DIVISION



TODAY

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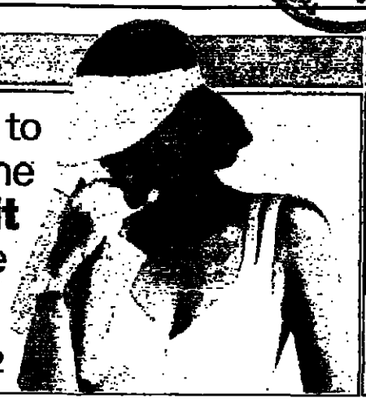
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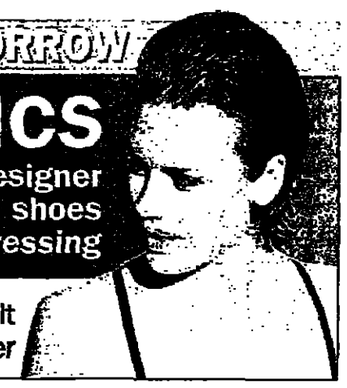
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£430m offer expected to be accepted

Volkswagen defeats BMW to win Rolls

BY ADAM JONES, ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ROGER BOYES

VOLKSWAGEN was poised last night to take control of Rolls-Royce after "gazumping" BMW, which thought last week it had a deal sewn up.

The surprise about-face means that the ultimate symbol of British craftmanship will now be controlled by the company designed to produce the successor to Hitler's People's Car.

But national icons have long since ceased to play a real role in the motor industry, and so have the stereotypes of car companies specialising in small, medium class or luxury vehicles. To underline the point, Daimler-Benz and Chrysler yesterday completed their whirlwind merger.

The surprise announcement on the Rolls-Royce sale came from its parent company, Vickers, after the stock market closed. Volkswagen the fourth-biggest manufacturer in the world, will pay £430 million, against the £340 million deal agreed with BMW eight days ago.

Vickers had then tried to shut the door on Volkswagen by insisting it had drawn up a *final contract with BMW*. However, VW came back with the higher bid, which Vickers said it was obliged to put to shareholders. And while BMW was smarting last night, *it might yet come back* with a further offer.

The gap between the two cash offers was not quite as large as appeared on paper. BMW was supposed to add between £20 million and £30 million to buy undelivered stocks of Rolls-Royce Silver Seraphs and Bentley Arnages.



"It's the people's car —well those who earn more than two hundred grand a year"

The Vickers chairman, Sir Colin Chandler, said: "Throughout the sales process, we have focused on achieving the maximum value for our shareholders and this remains the case. I am confident as to the strong prospects for Rolls-Royce Motor Cars under the ownership of either BMW or Volkswagen — both are leading players in the luxury automotive segment."

However, there is still animosity from British enthusiasts towards a foreign takeover. Michael Shrimpton, a barrister who has been trying to put together a British bid, said: "I think the BMW board will accuse Vickers of bad faith. We still intend to put in a bid and we are working to a higher number than even the new VW bid. We are determined to get a British bid on the table before the EGM in early June. We're still in this race.

"I don't think VW will be any more acceptable to Rolls-Royce customers and dealers than BMW. No one wants German or any foreign ownership of Rolls-Royce. I also think they'll have problems over the trademark."

He was referring to the fact that the Rolls-Royce name is owned by the aircraft engine maker, Rolls-Royce plc, which says that an agreement drawn up in the early 1970s gives it the right to stop any foreign buyer from using the name or bonnet badge on cars.

Rolls-Royce plc has made clear that it would not veto BMW, with which it has a close working relationship. But VW may have more problems. Vickers claims, however, that the veto clause is contrary to European law and has been lobbying the European Commission to say so. Those efforts have failed, so far, and Vickers might end up fighting the case in court.

Chrysler deal, page 29



ADIL BRADLOW/AP

South Africa's rugby administrator Louis Luyt after resisting calls to resign yesterday. Four black members of the executive stood down in protest

South Africa row puts rugby tours in doubt

BY SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG AND DAVID HANDS

THREE of the four home rugby unions are set to withdraw from their scheduled tours to South Africa this summer after Louis Luyt, the controversial head of the South African Rugby Football Union, refused to step down over allegations of racism at a chaotic meeting in Johannesburg yesterday.

South African rugby now faces international isolation, reminiscent of the days of apartheid, and "mass action" disrupting local games.

Four black members of the executive resigned in fury after Dr Luyt refused to heed the calls of seven out of 14 provincial unions to step down voluntarily to prevent the row over rugby splitting South African sports into racial camps. Mluleki George, chairman of the National Sports Council, said Dr Luyt must go because he was resisting attempts by President Mandela to launch a presidential inquiry into allegations of racism, nepotism and incompetence.

Dr Luyt, a former member of the National Party's propaganda machine, said: "Are we going to remain a leaderless society? Because that's what we are you know."

Ireland, Wales and England would not confirm last night that their proposed visits would be abandoned, but sources in South Africa suggest that the Irish and Welsh tours are unlikely to go ahead because the safety of their players cannot be guaranteed. The Irish are due to leave on May 24 for a seven-match tour. A spokesman would only say: "We are extremely concerned at the developments in South Africa."

Wales are due to leave a week later for a five-match tour, but they have postponed from today the scheduled announcement of their tour party. England are due to conclude a seven-match tour of the southern hemisphere with a single international against South Africa in Cape Town on July 4.

Hopes mauled, page 16
Luyt uproar, page 56

Pound on the slide again

The pound again wilted on the foreign exchanges as speculation continued to grow that interest rates in Europe are about to rise while British rates have peaked.

Britain's struggling exporters also received a boost after the Bank of England's monthly monetary meeting left base rates at 7.25 per cent.

The pound finished down three pfennigs at DM2.9032 — a four-and-half-month low. On its trade-weighted index, sterling declined from 104.4 to 103.4, and it lost a cent against the dollar to close at $1.6460 Page 29

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Euro bank chief dismisses 'absurd' deal with French

BY CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS AND PHILIP WEBSTER

FRESH doubts clouded the European Union's political deal over the future eurobank yesterday when Wim Duisenberg, its new manager, said he might serve a full eight-year term and attacked as absurd the EU's promise to President Chirac that his job would go to a Frenchman in 2002.

Mr Duisenberg, 62, said he had always planned to retire before the end of the full period as president of the European Central Bank, but he dissociated himself from the British-brokered compromise at last Saturday's summit which effectively ended his term in 2002. The Brussels carve-up, in which the succession was guaranteed to Jean-Claude Trichet of France, prompted a storm of criticism but has not dented the confidence of financial markets in the future single currency.

Angered by his treatment by EU leaders, the Dutch banker tweaked French nerves, telling the European Parliament: "I have never stated that I will serve only four or five years. What I have done is indicated . . . that I regard it not likely I will serve the full term of eight years."

Asked if he might stay for the full term, he drew applause when he replied: "Given good health, then yes." All he had promised the summit was to stay at least until the deadline for the changeover to euro notes and coins in July 2002, he said. "I do not know how long beyond that I will serve. I do not intend to stand down at a specific moment of time which I would have in my mind now."



Duisenberg: comments drew frequent applause

Frequent applause from the parliament's 60-strong Economic and Monetary Committee suggested there was little doubt that the full assembly would endorse his appointment next Wednesday.

Tony Blair broke the deadlock at the sour Brussels summit when he persuaded pon Mr Duisenberg to state his intention to retire early. Along with the promise of a French successor, this was enough for the French to accept his appointment. French officials played down Mr Duisenberg's remarks yesterday, saying the political

Continues on page 2, col 1

Pound slides, page 29

Women win right to refuse surgery

BY RICHARD DUCE

A WOMAN's right to refuse medical help even when doctors fear that she and her unborn child might die was enshrined by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The court also gave a 30-year-old veterinary nurse leave to sue a hospital where she was forced to birth by Caesarean section.

Administrators at St George's Hospital in Tooting, south London, had gone to a High Court judge to get consent for the procedure. But the Appeal Court held yesterday that she should not have been forced to have surgery and said that the hospital, a social worker and the local council had acted unlawfully.

The judges said: "She is entitled not to be forced to submit to an invasion of her body against her will, whether her own life or that of her unborn child depends on it. Her right is not reduced or diminished merely because her decision to exercise it may appear morally repugnant.

"Although human, and protected by the law in a number of different ways, an unborn child is not a separate person from its mother. Its need for medical assistance does not prevail over her rights."

The woman at the centre of the case, known only as Ms S, had developed pre-enclampsia when she was 36 weeks pregnant. Doctors advised that early delivery was essential, but Ms S was adamant that the baby should be born naturally. A social worker was called in and eventually she and the St George's hospital trust embarked on a series of legal moves that culminated in Ms S giving birth to a daughter by Caesarean section on April 26, 1996.

Civil rights lawyers believe that the case could open the floodgates for other women who believe that they, too, have been forced into operations to which they objected.

Three-year campaign, page 6
Law Report, page 45

Palace taxi turns on the gas for the Queen

BY DAMIAN WHITWORTH

ONE driver of a London taxi was last night able to deliver the ultimate boast: "I had that Queen in the back of my cab." For what was believed to be the first time, Her Majesty took a ride yesterday in a London taxi.

The occasion was the launch of liquid petroleum gas as the fuel for four royal cars, demonstrating that blue blood is no bar to being green. The driver was not the typical garrulous cabbie, but the Duke of Edinburgh's chauffeur, complete with peaked cap. The Duke has for some years enjoyed beetling unobtrusively about the capital in his own taxis, specially modified to include a front passenger seat for a detective.

At the Royal Mews yesterday four cars converted to use LPG — the Metrocab, a 1960 Rolls Royce Phantom V, a Daimler and a Rover 400 — were on show. A crowd of men involved in their conversion milled about with John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who pointed out that his two Jaguars had already been converted.

One would probably not have had the Duke and Mr Prescott down as bosom pals, but with cars to talk about they were in top gear. Mr Prescott made a little quip and the Duke chuckled and came back with his own gag. The Queen smiled. As Mr Prescott's coat-tails flapped in the breeze it was noticable that his jacket had a rather fancy red silk lining that matched the Queen's red coat and hat.

As she was guided around, the Queen gave every indication of being interested, but the Duke was clearly riveted and joined in with the poking under the bonnets.

The Queen chatted to some local children who had brought along a display of artwork about the environment. Then the taxi was filled with gas and the royal couple hopped in.

It was not a long trip — just around the corner to the front entrance of Buckingham Palace — but like the Queen's conversion to lead-free petrol in 1989, it is hoped it will go a long way towards persuading people to use cleaner fuels.

Mr Prescott walked back to his office. "I was going to say to him, 'How about putting your seatbelt on?'" Fortunately, for everyone's blushes, he didn't.

Photograph, page 28

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How the wet and the dry can all find a sense of porpoise

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

While much of England went to the polls in local government elections or the London referendum yesterday, a Liberal Democrat spokesman, Don Foster, made a last-minute bid to get out the stay-at-home cetacean vote. Someone should explain to Paddy Ashdown that cetaceans can't. Is it too late for the special committee on electoral reform (being chaired by Lord Jenkins of Hillhead) to consider extending the franchise to whales and dolphins?

The question arises because Liberal Democrat MPs are making strenuous and affectionate representations on behalf of these loving creatures, and there seems at present no way for the whales and dolphins to say thank-you through the ballot box.

Mr Foster used questions to Ann Taylor, Leader of the House, to move the discussion seaward. His was a complicated inquiry, calling for a debate, and including the allegation that the U.S. Defence Department has been trying to hack into the computers of the Whale and Dolphin Society, in his constituency of Bath. MPs scratched their heads. The Pentagon? Dolphins? Computers? Bath? What could he mean? Mr Foster, who has the manner of a mild but faintly irascible Church of England infants' school teacher, outlined his worries deadpan and with every appearance of sincerity. Noting baffled faces around him and the hilarity of Dennis Skinner (Lab, Bolsover), he explained that, somewhere out in the ocean, there were "43 USSR-trained dolphins".

"Sounds like David Icke," chuckled Skinner. Ann Taylor looked perplexed. But Foster was serious. It seemed that the Pentagon wants to know more about these dolphins. Information about them might be contained within the computer files of the Whale and Dolphin Society in Bath. US Navy boffins were trying to find out how much the marine conservation group knew. The implication was clear. The Yanks want to track these ex-Commie dolphins down — who knows for what purpose? Only the Liberal Democrat party now stands between a little school of well-intentioned if ideologically misguided sea-going mammals, and the whole might of American military power.

You really would have thought that, now the Cold War is over, there might be some kind of an amnesty for the unwitting tools of the old regime who were, after all, only obeying orders. Foster hoped to get Parliament on his side.

Sadly, the Leader of the House was unable to help. "I know of no Government Department with specific information on this," she stonewalled. Mr Foster subsided. But at least Washington now knows that these dolphins have friends in the British Liberal Democrat party. "Unity of Porpoise" are the watchwords among thoughtful Liberals.

And who could doubt that if cetaceans had votes, they would go overwhelmingly to the centre party? Like Liberal Democrats, dolphins and whales are gentle and intelligent creatures, much given to consensus, cooperation and community. They even organise their own schools.

Not that Lib Dems would hold sway over the whole of marine life. The goldfish and koi-carp, along with the rest of Middle England, would remain loyal to the Conservative Party. Most of the oily fish — the sardines and herring — would swim with Peter Mandelson and his New Labour crowd: the plankton would follow the Labour back benches whom they so resemble.

And who can doubt which way the hermit crabs would cast their votes? These creatures, lacking any capacity to construct hard shelters for themselves, invade and occupy shells built by other creatures — and call them their own. New Labour leads the way.

EU banker

Continued from page 1

deal would stand. However, one Gaullist MEP snapped: "He's trying to screw us."

Mr Duisenberg, a former Finance Minister and long-serving chief of the Dutch central bank, said the summit had left a "bad taste".

"There were efforts to convince me that I should announce a day to stand down ... That is why it took so long last Saturday; I refused to do so. In that case I would not have accepted the job."

He also "found slightly absurd" the leaders' promise to guarantee his vacant job to France. The summit deal to hold his job for a French national amounted to a breach of the Maastricht treaty, he said, because it contained no reference to specific nationality as a credential for the post.

The delight over Mr Duisenberg's performance effectively ended threats from MEPs earlier this week to block the appointment of the ECB's six-member board.

"He is a strong man, the man we wanted," said Fernand Herman, a Belgian Christian Democrat.

However, some MEPs worried that Mr Duisenberg's defiant stance could provoke M Chirac into rethinking his support for the appointment, which still awaits final approval.

For all his charm, Mr Duisenberg displayed determination to resist pressure from any quarter when he takes on the independent stewardship of the euro in July. He used the three-hour interrogation to signal his intention to erect a high fence around the Frankfurt-based bank when it gets down to setting interest rates and running monetary policy for the 11 EU states that have joined the single currency.

Blair accused of buying support for peace deal

Cash for victims of the Troubles has had a mixed response, write Martin Fletcher and Jill Sherman

TONY BLAIR pledged millions of pounds for Northern Ireland's victims of violence yesterday, leading opponents of the peace accord to accuse him of "buying" the May 22 referendum.

The Prime Minister's pledge came one day after he announced a £4.5 million assistance package for Royal Ulster Constabulary officers injured on duty or wishing to retire early. Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionist Party said it supported both causes, but the timing of the promises was an "absolute disgrace".

RUC officers are nervous about an agreement that establishes an independent commission on policing, and many victims of violence deplore the prospect of terrorist prisoners being released within two years.

Downing Street also confirmed that Gordon Brown would visit Northern Ireland next week to announce a new economic package.

However the White House said President Clinton had decided against a pre-referendum visit after Unionists warned it would be seen as political interference, and Mr Blair's proposed joint visit with William Hague and Paddy Ashdown was also in doubt.

A Downing Street spokesman said Mr Blair had ordered the creation of a compensation fund worth "a few million pounds" for those injured and bereaved. He said Mr Blair had been prompted to act after meeting Jeffrey Donaldson, the Ulster Unionist MP, in Belfast on Wednesday and learning that the EU's Peace and Reconciliation Fund had given terrorist prisoners and their families £1 million compared to £700,000 for their victims. Mr Donaldson opposes the agreement, but UUP colleagues believe they can still secure a significant propaganda victory by coaxing him back into the "yes" camp.

Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, the former head of Northern Ireland's civil service, also recommended greater support for the victims in a report he sent the Government last week. He spent six months considering the best ways of commemorating the 3,200 people killed since 1968, and was shaken by the extent to which their families had been neglected.

Most victims groups welcomed the announcement, but Sir Donald Maclean, the senior Conservative whose wife was killed in the Brighton bombing, called it a "publicity gambit".

David Trimble, the UUP leader, meanwhile, launched his strongest attack to date on Unionist opponents of the agreement — who include half his own MPs — and their "cheap, misleading, negative 'no' campaign that wants to consign the country to another 30 years of misery".

He accused them of scaremongering and political cowardice, and continued: "I am sick of listening to the tired rhetoric of those who have failed the Unionist people in the past."

The divisions within Unionism were further underlined when senior Orange Order members placed an advertisement supporting the agreement in yesterday's Protestant News Letter. It appeared just hours before the Order's leadership met Mr Blair at Downing Street to express its opposition. The Order is Northern Ireland's largest Protestant organisation, with as many as 80,000 members, but has been unable to agree a position on the agreement.

Gerry Adams, Sinn Fein's president, rebuffed Unionist attempts to make IRA disarmament a precondition for his party's "historic" participation in Northern Ireland's new assembly. "There may be genuine fears about the intentions of the IRA but as an Irish republican, I have genuine fears about the intentions of the Unionists and the British Government," he said. "Sinn Fein is not an armed group. Sinn Fein is not the IRA and we do not intend to allow the rights of our electorate to be subverted in any way."

Martin McGuinness acknowledged a "tiny number of discordant voices" who objected to the Sinn Fein executive's decision to support the peace accord and sit in the assembly, but said he was "absolutely convinced republicanism on this island will remain united".

A Sinn Fein special conference is expected to endorse that decision tomorrow.

PAUL McERLANE



David Trimble said opponents were being negative

Prisons chief to create race relations unit

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE Director General of the Prison Service yesterday pledged lead a new race relations unit to monitor racism in the service, staffed mainly by representatives from the ethnic minorities.

Richard Tilt, who provoked controversy recently over remarks that Afro-Caribbeans were more likely to suffocate under restraint, announced the establishment of the Prison Service Race Relations Group at a Black Prisoners' Support Group conference in Manchester.

He told the 125 delegates that he had been "hurt and shocked" by the allegations of racism that followed the interview after an inquest into the death of a black prisoner on *Newsnight*.

Mr Tilt, who has already apologised for the remarks, insisted that he was not a racist but acknowledged that racism did exist within the service. He said that around one third of prisons were not yet following policy guidelines on race, and that the service, as a whole, was not "doing as well as it ought to be doing."

Delegates had earlier expressed "hurt, shock and outrage" at Mr Tilt's comments, but they accorded him a polite, even warm, reception. He told the conference that he wanted to give fresh impetus and drive to the Prison Service's work on race relations.

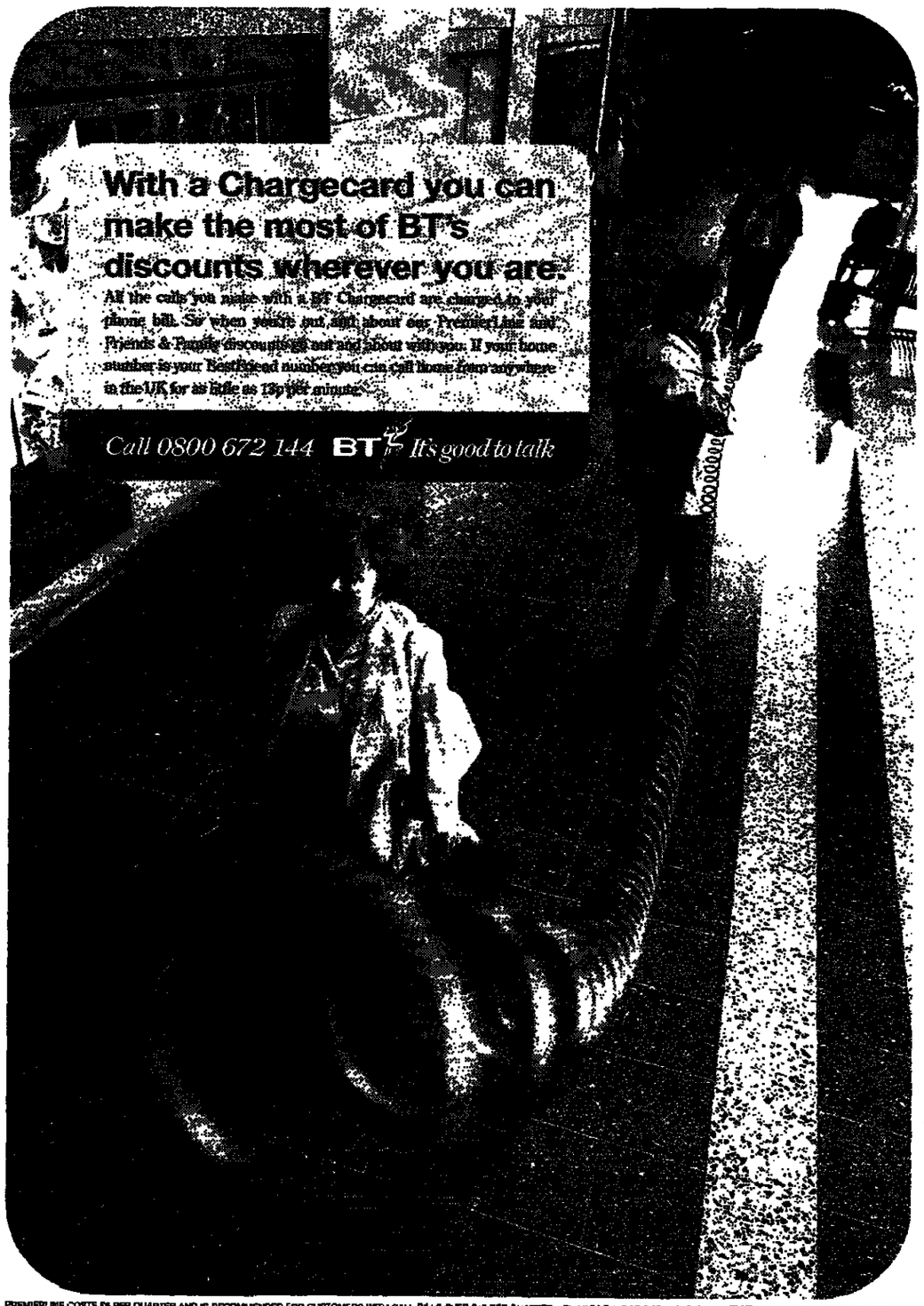
To this end, he was setting up the new forum, at national level, to "ensure that policies are as good as they can be and, almost more important, that they are operating effectively across all establishments."

He intended to head the new group, but he said that he would be inviting representatives from ethnic minorities to join. They would look at evidence of racial discrimination in recruitment and temporary release of prisoners.

The row over restraint was sparked by the inquest into the death of Alton Manning. A jury had found that Mr Manning, 33, was unlawfully killed after being restrained by officers at a private prison in 1995. He was one of six Afro-Caribbean prisoners — compared to one white prisoner — to have died in similar circumstances between 1989 and 1995.



Tilt: said that Prison Service could do more



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Labour peer gazumped us, say barrister couple

Lord Hamlyn is being sued for £50,000 over the sale of his house, reports **Rachel Kelly**

TWO barristers are suing the newly enobled Labour peer Lord Hamlyn for up to £50,000 because they claim they were gazumped over their attempt to buy his Grade II listed house in Hammersmith, West London. If successful, the case may have implications for other victims of gazumping.

Jonathan Ferris and Deborah Bangay say that their £765,000 bid for the detached brick house, on sale for £950,000, had been accepted by Lord Hamlyn's estate agents, Savills, on April 27.

They claim that Savills said Lord Hamlyn would not consider any other, higher offers while he was uncontactable and away for a fortnight in Majorca and that the house was theirs if they exchanged in two weeks.

Yet this Tuesday, the couple were told by Savills that a second offer nearly £200,000 higher and believed to be from a developer had reached Lord Hamlyn in Majorca, which he was considering.

The couple, who both work as barristers in Bedford Row Chambers, had organised searches, surveys, mortgages, money transfers and the sale of their PEPs in order to buy the house. The couple are suing the millionaire publisher, who is chairman of Heinemann and apatron of the arts, and other trustees of his Paul Hamlyn Foundation.



Lord Hamlyn and the house in West London originally on sale for £950,000

Ms Bangay said: "That a Labour peer could have behaved in such an appalling way is extraordinary when you think that Labour are supposed to campaigning for proposals to end gazumping. We put our own Docklands house on the market, we gave notice to our children's schools, we employed two builders and an architect to go round the house. I was astounded to receive Savills' telephone call."

Ms Bangay's husband, Mr Ferris, said: "We were bitterly disappointed and my wife was in tears. We felt cheated and the episode cost a lot of money, so we decided to sue."

The couple allege they have incurred financial losses thorugh having to raise the cash quickly, including the cashing in of £35,000 of PEPs, and the loss of interest on £73,000 removed from a 60-day notice building society account.

Hugh Dunsmore Hardy, chief executive of the National Association of Estate Agents, said: "It all depends exactly what was said in the period of the negotiations. Agents' offers are always made in writing, but subject to contract. The verbal agreement would have to be witnessed by a formal contract. There does not seem to have been a formal written lock-out contract in this case."

By the 1991 Property Misdescriptions Act, agents are bound to pass on all offers to the seller. Gazumping affects about 2 per cent of deals, especially in London and the Home counties, and is not illegal. A spokesman from the Law Society said any wider implications would only become clear once the case had been heard. Three weeks ago, the society suggested proposals to speed house-buying by providing a standard package for buyers which in turn would help reduce the risk of gazumping.

Mr Dunsmore Hardy said that the present government review of house-buying should help to eradicate such high-profile cases. A government task force led by Hilary Armstrong, the Housing Minister is expected to report in the autumn on proposals to speed the house-buying system. The changes may include moves to stop gazumping, which is already illegal in Scotland.

The Hamlyn house is listed in telephone directories from 1992 to 1994 as the location of the Hamlyn Foundation and is currently used as offices. Hammersmith council says that no planning consent was ever given for non-residential use and Lord Hamlyn is thought to stay occasionally in a basement flat. The house needs about £100,000 of essential repairs.

The writ to the High Court claims that "the representations made on his (Lord Hamlyn's) behalf by his agent were false in that offers did not close on April 28, and the defendants were willing to consider any better offers received at any time prior to exchange of contracts, in direct contradiction to the representations made on their behalf."

ASHLEY COOMBES



Deborah Bangay and Jonathan Ferris, who were devastated at losing the house

Pupil's suicide may be linked to acne drug

BY JOANNA BALE

A sixthformer killed himself after taking an anti-acne drug that has been linked to teenage suicides in America, an inquest was told yesterday.

David Tebby, 18, was prescribed Roaccutane by his doctor to clear up his severe acne, but within months of starting a course of the tablets he developed suicidal tendencies and threw himself off a multistorey car park.

His parents are planning legal action against Roche, the manufacturers, for not giving stronger warnings about the dangers. Some 2,000 people a year are believed to be prescribed the drug in Britain.

The US Food and Drug Administration issued a warning about the drug this year after it was linked to 12 suicides in the United States. Roche agreed to change the labelling to warn that it could lead to suicide — but only on drugs prescribed in America.

Data collected by the World Health Organisation has also implicated the drug in 720 reports of psychiatric problems, including more than 100 suicides and suicide attempts.

David, had been offered places at three universities, and was described as the most popular boy at his school in Caerleon, South Wales.

Newport Coroner's Court was told that the schoolboy had begun taking Roaccutane two years ago. Kevin LePrevost, the coroner's clerk, told the hearing: "The Food and Drug Administration has decided that the warning should be strengthened. The Medical Control Agency in Britain is considering doing the same."

Mr Tebby's father, Michael, told the inquest that his son had had a promising future. He said: "Since he began taking the tablets we noticed he had been depressed. He made an earlier attempt on his life by taking a Paracetamol overdose, but I thought it was half-hearted and didn't think he was serious."

David left notes for his family, then went to a multistorey car park at Newport. He was seen running to the top where he leaped to his death without hesitating.

The Gwent Coroner, David Bowen, ruled that he committed suicide while the balance of his mind was disturbed. He said: "There is the possibility that this drug played a part in his death."

After the case, Mr Tebby and his wife Pat who have another son, called for an inquiry into the drug. "When we feel strong enough we will take action against the drug company," Mr Tebby said.

Roche said 8 million people worldwide had taken the drug. "We have had isolated reports of depression and very rarely suicide but we do not think there is a link."



David Tebby: was bright and popular at school

Prison for boss who toyed with licence

BY ADAM FRESCO

A SENIOR executive with the Toys'R'Us chain took two driving tests so that he could have a spare licence in a slightly different name in case he was ever banned.

Gwyn Havard, 52, had been banned three times in his own name when police finally caught him using the illicit licence with the surname Haverd. Yesterday he was jailed for five months.

Magistrates at Horseferry Road court in central London were told that the company's director of international business systems was stopped after leaving a pub. He passed a breathalyser test and his documents appeared genuine, but computer checks had revealed that the BMW car was linked to a banned driver called Gwyn Havard.

At the police station, he tried to maintain that he knew nothing about the disqualified driver with similar details, but finally admitted he had been banned from driving for five years in October 28 last year, when he was also fined £2,500. He had passed his test in 1991, and again in 1993.

Havard, of St Albans, Hertfordshire, admitted intent to deceive, and driving while disqualified and uninsured.

He told magistrates that his arrest had cost him his job. Later, executives at the company said they had heard nothing about the case or his resignation.

Havard worked in this country for Toys'R'Us International, but one senior executive at the British company told *The Times*: "This is the first anyone at Toys'R'Us anywhere in the world has heard about this.

"Now that we know, appropriate action will be taken."

Rugby hero 'kicked man's head during club brawl'

BY STEPHEN FARRELL

NEIL JENKINS, the British Lions and Welsh rugby union international, kicked a doorman in the head during a nightclub brawl, a court was told yesterday.

Jenkins, 26, was one of four players who allegedly "lost control" after a drinking session at the Icon club in Swansea city centre.

The Pontypridd captain, who has 57 Welsh caps and has scored a national record 594 points, denies violent disorder and assault causing actual bodily harm during the incident, which followed his club's defeat by Swansea in February last year.

At Swansea Crown Court, his Pontypridd team-mate Dale McIntosh, 28, and his brother Shane McIntosh, 29, from New Zealand, also deny both offences and a further charge of assault causing grievous bodily harm. The Fijian international Joe Veitaiaki, 31, failed to appear for trial and a warrant has been issued for his arrest, the jury was told.

Patrick Griffiths, for the prosecution, said all four became violent when doormen broke up a fight between Mr Veitaiaki and an Argentinian player, Christian Martin, and tried to eject them. He said: "As more doormen and staff intervened to prevent violence, so the defendants became increasingly violent and at the end Dale McIntosh and Shane McIntosh were the most violent." Mr Jenkins eventually tried to stop the fighting, he said, but a a doorman, Nicholas Tyrell, had been injured by him.

"Neil Jenkins kicked him to the side of his head," Mr Griffiths said. Another doorman, Mark Lyndon Morgan, was allegedly hit by all four as he tried to help a colleague. Mr Morgan suffered a dislocated jaw, a black eye and a cracked tooth. Another doorman needed hospital treatment for cuts, bruises and blurred vision, and a woman member of staff, Kelly Crocker, who tried to reason with the Fijian, was allegedly picked up by the hair and thrown downstairs by him.

During police interviews, the four players were said to have claimed self-defence. The case continues today.

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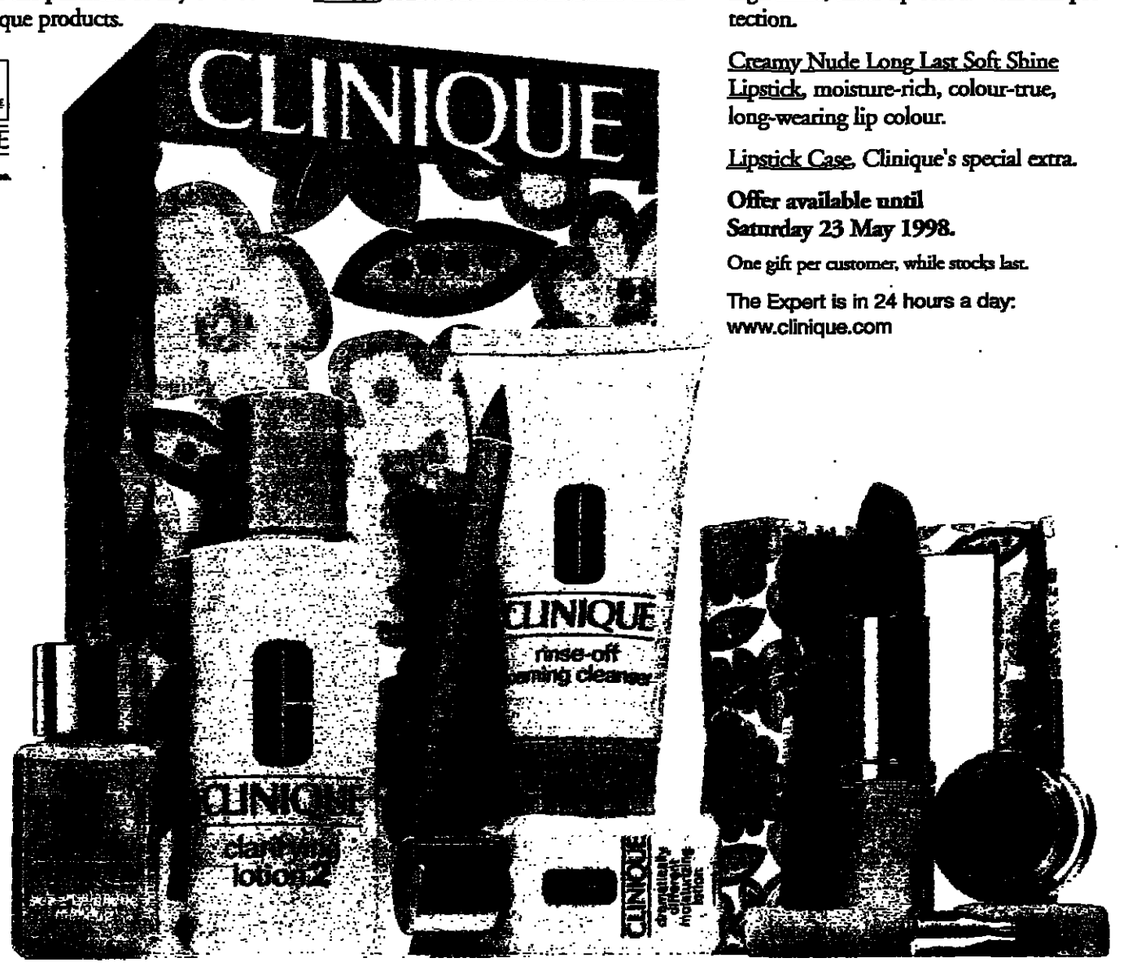
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Farmer had false passport like terrorists'

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A FALSE passport found when police raided the house of Thomas "Slab" Murphy was forged by Gerry Kelly, who had filled in false passports for convicted IRA terrorist, the Dublin High court was told yesterday.

The court was also told during a *Sunday Times* libel trial that police uncovered an arms bunker buried under a derelict house on the Murphy family farm at Hackballscross, Co Louth.

Mr Murphy claims that he was libelled by *The Sunday Times* in 1985 when it published an article stating that a "Slab" Murphy had recently been appointed commander of IRA operations in Northern Ireland. Mr Murphy said he believed the article referred to him and denies any involvement with the IRA. *The Sunday Times* sought to prove yesterday that Mr Murphy was a member of the IRA as he held a stolen passport in the false name of Jim Faughney. The passport was similar to those found on convicted IRA terrorists.

David Gareth Jones, a former Home Office handwriting expert now working as a private consultant in Birmingham, said that he analysed three forged passports held by Mr Kelly and Mr Murphy. All three passports came from a batch stolen from the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin in 1984.

Mr Gareth Jones said that the letters D, G and M and the number 8 were written in a similar style on all three passports. He said that in his opinion all three had been written by the same person.

Mr Kelly, who is now a senior member of the Sinn Fein talks team, was discovered with five forged Irish passports when he was arrested by Dutch police in 1986, three years after his escape from the Maze prison.

Inspector Van Kerkhof of the Dutch police told Judge McGuinness that he discovered about 17 passports in the flat on the outskirts of Amsterdam where he arrested Mr Kelly. Most of the passports were Irish and came from the stolen series. Five were made out to Mr Kelly, who was subsequently extradited to Britain. "They are the same person but sometimes he is wearing a moustache or a beard," he said.

Mr Murphy's false passport was found by Dan Prenty, a retired Garda Detective Inspector now working as a private detective. He said that he raided Mr Murphy's family home in 1989 and discovered the false passport. The search on Mr Murphy's house was made in connection with a police investigation into the murder three months earlier of two RUC officers, Chief Superintendent Harry Breen and Superintendent Bob Buchanan: the two highest-ranking RUC officers killed by the IRA. "I was interested in questioning him about his activities on dates surrounding the murder of two RUC officers," Detective Inspector Prenty said.

The farm, owned by Mr Murphy's mother Elizabeth, straddles the Irish border. The house is on the southern side while the farmyard is in Northern Ireland. He said that passing from the house into the yard will bring you from the Irish Republic into Northern Ireland.

Mr Prenty said that when he went into the house in June 1989, Mr Murphy left and went into the yard and on the northern side of the border, placing himself outside the control of the Gardai.

"My understanding is one side wall of the house sits on the border. When you go out the back door or out the window of the house you are in the north. We have no access to the back, we never had," Detective Inspector Prenty said.

Mr Murphy later went to the police station for questioning about the passport but remained silent throughout the interrogation. He was not charged.

The previous year, Gardai raided the farm and found a 200-gallon steel tank buried under a derelict farmhouse. Water had leaked inside, rusting the 3.5 inch bullets and mortar fins found inside. Army bomb disposal experts carried out two explosions on the tank before it was destroyed.

The case continues today.

NEWSPAPER PULLS SERIALISATION OF IRA INFORMER'S BOOK

A planned serialisation of the memoirs of the IRA informer Sean O'Callaghan which was due to go ahead within the next few days has been pulled by *The Daily Telegraph* (Raymond Snoddy writes).

The newspaper's executives were, it is believed, concerned about the effects of serialisation on the libel case now under way in Dublin in which Mr O'Callagahan is appearing as a witness for the defence in a case in which *The Sunday Times* is being sued.The newspaper is concerned that serialisation could impede the trial and also undermine *The Sunday Times*'s case, which it regards as an important one on press freedom grounds.The paper insists that no final decision has been taken on serialisation and that the position will be reviewed as soon as the trial is over. However the Telegraph's window of opportunity for serialisation could simply disappear if the trial, scheduled to last up to six weeks runs on past May 21, the planned publication date of the memoirs. Transworld, the book's publishers, would not confirm yesterday that the publication date was May 21 or whether there was any chance that publication would be postponed before the trial

Advertising chief calls for election posters to be vetted

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

ELECTION advertising should be vetted to prevent such posters as the "demon eyes" portrayal of Tony Blair by the Tories, said a leading member of the industry yesterday.

Andrew Brown, the director-general of the Advertising Association, told the Neill inquiry into party funding: "In the hothouse atmosphere of an election, you can deliberately manipulate the system to generate notoriety and flout the rules."

He said that he had no proof this was the case with the "demon eyes" poster but it could have been the case.Mr Brown said he had also been unhappy with a Labour poster claiming "Same old Tories, same old lies". But under the code of practice, political parties did not have to comply with a rule governing denigration.

The Advertising Standards Authority ruled against the use of the "demon eyes" poster on the ground that he had not given permission to be portrayed "in an offensive or adverse way". The poster appeared only once but 166 complaints were received by the authority.

But it had been unable to rule against the Labour poster attacking the Conservatives. Mr Brown said outside the inquiry that the advertising authority's council had been unhappy that it might have been perceived as one-sided because of the present rules.

"I see no reason why parties can't expose other parties for flaws in policies or actions, but 'same old Tories, same old lies' is denigratory," Mr Brown said.

Vetting posters should be carried out by a new Electoral Commission and should not be a job for the advertising industry, he said. He was against a ban on political advertising at elections but said there should be "fair-play rules".

Without them, the process could lead to "anarchy and that is the trouble in America". He suggested that Labour had deliberately withheld its total election campaign spending on political posters from the advertising industry.

Quoting from a survey compiled by industry monitors, A.C. Neilson, he said that according to its figures, Labour spent £890,000 on newspaper advertising, without any mention of billboards.The Conservative Party, however, had admitted a total spend of £7.5 million, of which 26 per cent was spent on press advertising and 74 per cent on posters.

The Referendum Party spent £3,900,000: 53 per cent in the press, 12 per cent in cinemas and 35 per cent on billboards.

Labour last night disputed the allegation against it and said it was happy to provide details of its election spending. A spokeswoman said that of the £15 million spent on last year's election, about half had been spent on posters.

How Hague puzzled Thatcher

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

BARONESS THATCHER was unable to determine William Hague's political beliefs at her crucial meeting with him during last year's Tory leadership election, it is claimed today.

In a lengthy conversation the next day with John Redwood, who had called her in anger after reports that she had endorsed Mr Hague, the former Prime Minister asked brightly: "Now William Hague, is he right-wing?"

The story of the battle for Lady Thatcher's support is told by Hywel Williams, Mr Redwood's former chief adviser, in *Guilty Men*. The book's serialisation continues in *The Times* today.

He tells how Mr Redwood's campaign team cheered as he declined her invitation to go to see her, explaining that he was rather busy campaigning to get the votes of sitting MPs.

But their relations had been cool for some time. She had refused to support him in the 1995 contest. During the following years, Mr Williams recalls, he would visit her office two or three times a year and "return with tales of a woman counting her gold and reliving her past". He maintained that "the whole Thatcher thing is dead, it's over and done with". Lady Thatcher was formally to endorse Mr Hague when Mr Redwood and Kenneth Clarke forged their unlikely alliance.

Mr Redwood's deeply uncomfortable dealings with John Major are also described at length. Mr Williams says that Mr Major was obsessively concerned with his appearance."Locked away with a make-up girl for an inordinate amount of time before he was ready to face the cameras, he would pay special attention to his hair, lovingly combing every greying strand into place ... The feature he least liked about his appearance was his hands. They might have been useful for a batsman, but they had aged into large, misshapen, liver-spotted protuberances."



Hague at a polling station yesterday

He writes that on political tours Mr Redwood failed to massage the Prime Minister's "almost feminine and fragile sense of his identity". Once on a train, with Mr Redwood bursting to talk about economic developments, Mr Major steered clear of anything serious."As the train approached the station, conversation centred on whether he was wearing the right tie, and whether the knot was correctly tied."

Guilty Men, page 23
Matthew Parris, page 24

PAUL HACKETT



Tony and Cherie Blair arrive to cast their votes at a Westminster polling station

Winners warned to be aware of sleaze

BY JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE most senior figure in local government will today deliver a stern warning to all 4,000 newly-elected councillors to avoid becoming involved in town hall sleaze.

Sir Jeremy Beecham, the chairman of the Local Government Association, which represents more than 500 authorities, will write to all the successful candidates in yesterday's poll urging them to maintain "the highest standards in probity".

The move comes in the wake of numerous sleaze scandals that have tarnished the reputation of local government in recent years. Councillors, many in Labour-controlled local authorities, have been accused of of a raft of misdemeanours including vote rigging, expenses fraud and planning irregularities. The Tories have also been attacked for the homes-for-votes scandal in Westminster.

In his letter, Sir Jeremy tells the new councillors that they are taking on a great responsibility. "You now represent all who live in your ward and you owe them a duty to act in accordance with the highest standards of public life," he says. "You also have an important role in helping to reinvigorate our democracy."

The LGA, which covers most authorities in England and Wales, is launching an all-party campaign to boost civic leadership and local democracy based on five targets. These involve "maintaining the highest standards of probity", stronger community government, public private partnerships, and reconnecting local government to local communities.

Legal aid fraud inquiries

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE number of solicitors' firms investigated for legal aid fraud has risen by more than 60 per cent in five years, the Lord Chancellor's Department announced last night.

Some 159 firms were investigated in 1996/7 compared with 98 in 1992/3. The number of individuals investigated by the Legal Aid Board and the police for making suspected false declarations to obtain legal aid has also tripled.

But the amount of cash recovered from solicitors who made fraudulent claims while rising over recent years, fell last year. More than £1.1 million repaid by firms in 1995/6 compared with £807,706 in 1996/7. Just £20,153 was reclaimed in 1992/3.

The figures were released in a written answer by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Lord Chancellor, Geoff Hoon, on the day that Lord Irvine of Lairg defended his plans to cut legal aid for most personal injury claims. He seemed to try to defuse tensions over his plans, telling hundreds of personal injury lawyers at a conference in London that they should be proud of how they had adapted to change.

"Lawyers working in personal injury should be proud of the way they have adapted to change. They had "taken the leap" and accepted that conditional fees [no win, no fee] can bring greater access to justice for their clients," he told the annual conference of the Association for Personal Injury Lawyers.

Desert island crowd sell their luxuries

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THEY were a long way from a desert island, so it seemed safe to give away a few luxuries. Sixty veterans of *Desert Island Discs* gathered for a dinner at London's Café Royal last night, and made donations for a charity auction.

The actor Derek Nimmo donated his own personal luxury — a sack of garlic, the playwright Alan Ayckbourn gave a bouquet of flowers every month for a year, and the former England football manager Bobby Robson a Barcelona team shirt for the event, in aid of the Royal London Society for the Blind. The Conservative MP Gillian Shepherd offered tea for two at the House of Commons, and Glenys Kinnock donated lunch at the European Parliament.

Lord Archer, who could not attend due to his commitments to the local elections, donated a signed copy of his collected stories and the racing commentator Peter Scudamore gave the winning plate from the 1998 Grand National won by Earth Summit.

The Café Royal was bedecked with palm trees and beach scenery for the evening. Diana Plomley, the widow of Roy Plomley who created the programme in 1942 and chose the famous theme tune, By The Sleepy Lagoon, by Eric Coates, was presented with flowers. Mini "Desert Island discs" were placed on each table recalling the history of the programme whose first ever guest was the Viennese comedian Vic Oliver and which has since played host to more than 2,000 celebrities.

The most popular musical choice is Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D minor, while the most commonly chosen luxury is a piano followed by writing materials and a bed. (The most controversial luxury item chosen was an inflatable rubber woman picked by the actor and former polar explorer Duncan Carse and Oliver Reed. Norman Mailer wanted a stick of the "finest marijuana".)

Last night former castaways such as the actresses Prunella Scales, June Whitfield and Jenny Agutter attended alongside Sir George Martin, Harry Secombe and Baroness Thatcher's former press secretary Sir Bernard Ingham.

The television presenter Michael Aspel donated a cricket sweater which was worn by Jim Laker when he took 18 wickets in the 1956 Test match with Australia, and Lord Lawson, who abstained from the dinner itself, gave his diet book.

The desert island theme did not appear to extend to the food, however. Guests were treated to a lavish meal.

Leading article, page 25

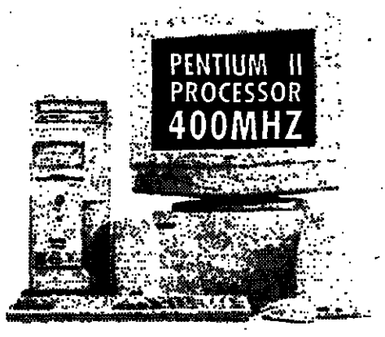
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Widow relives killing in Kenyan safari park

Briton tells court muggers attacked after husband said good morning

THE widow of a British tourist who was killed on holiday in Kenya told a court yesterday how two men wrestled her husband to the ground and stabbed him with a hunting knife before fleeing with cameras and a pair of binoculars.

"He stood up and grabbed his chest and said, 'The bastards have stabbed me.'" Sandra Chivers said. "We managed to walk a little way, and then he collapsed. He was bleeding."

She said that the men had attacked her husband from behind shortly after he had wished them good morning. Her husband was later flown to hospital in Nairobi, 80 miles away. "I think he was dead when we got there," she said, wiping away tears.

Roy Chivers, 50, a former detective constable in Scotland Yard's Directorate of Intelligence, was stabbed in the chest in February while on a walk in the grounds of the Aberdare Country Club. His wife suffered cuts to her fingers. The cameras were worth about £2,000: one was recovered police tracker dogs near the scene of the attack. The couple, from Orpington, Kent, had arrived in Kenya three days previously.

GEORGE MULALA



Gachau, left, and Wairimu both deny murder

Mrs Chivers was the first witness called by the prosecution on the opening day of the trial of Peter Hiuhu Gachau and Simon Njoroge Wairimu, both in their late 20s, in Nyeri, 75 miles north of Nairobi. During her testimony, Mrs Chivers occasionally glanced at the two suspects, who stared back stonily. Mr Gachau and Mr Wairimu were charged in March, and face a mandatory death sentence if convicted. Both deny murder.

Although death sentences are routinely handed down by Kenyan courts, no one has been executed for at least a decade. Kenyan authorities hastened the trial in an attempt to protect the country's image as a suitable tourist destination. The tourism industry, traditionally the country's largest single earner of foreign currency, has suffered a dramatic decline because of civil unrest and attacks on foreigners.

Asked by the prosecutor to demonstrate how her husband was killed, Mrs Chivers raised the hunting knife from the exhibits table and stabbed the air. "The incident was very fast, and I was very frightened," she said.

The small provincial courtroom was packed, and spectators spilled outside. The trial was conducted under tight security. Mrs Chivers, who arrived in Kenya earlier in the week, said she had not been able to identify positively the assailants in a police line-up on Wednesday.

The trial was adjourned until Monday by Julius Mushelle, the principal magistrate.

KHALIL SENOSI



Sandra Chivers leaving court yesterday. She suffered cuts to her hands in the attack

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Anfield legend to challenge disability ruling

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

TOMMY SMITH, the legendary hard man of Anfield during Liverpool's glory days, vowed to fight on yesterday after losing an appeal to win back his Disability Living Allowance.

The former defender, who suffers chronic osteo- and rheumatoid arthritis, claims his benefit was stopped after an Everton-supporting social security employee saw him take part in a penalty shoot-out during the entertainment before the 1996 FA Cup final.

Mr Smith, 53, captained Liverpool between 1969 and 1973. He now has two artificial knee joints, one new elbow and a hip replacement, and insists that he had to take painkillers before limping out to take the kick before the match between his old team and Manchester United.

However, a panel from the Independent Tribunal Service in Manchester ruled that he was not eligible for the full benefit of £132 a week and that it should be cut to £13, the minimum care allowance. The three-man panel decided unanimously that Mr Smith was not entitled to an award of the mobility component of Disability Living Allowance.

Mr Smith, who was yesterday in a wheelchair and a metal head brace following a recent car accident, was furious at the judgment. He insisted that he would launch a private prosecution against the person who named him.

He said: "I am going to fight this all the way. It is disgraceful. Evidently they don't believe what I say. Because I go on holiday to America, because I took a penalty at Wembley, and because I do some after-dinner speaking, that makes me able-bodied.

"I think it adds insult to injury when I have never been in trouble in my life. People who know me know I'm upfront."

Mr Smith, who lives with his wife Susanne in Crosby, Merseyside, says he is in constant pain from his disabilities. He claims that an employee at Bootle Social Security office has been bragging at work about having reported him.

A statement issued by the tribunal said that Mr Smith was only entitled to the lowest rate of the care component, £13.15-a-week, backdated from September 13, 1996.

In the road accident last month, Mr Smith suffered three fractures to his spine and four broken ribs.



Tommy Smith playing for Liverpool in 1970

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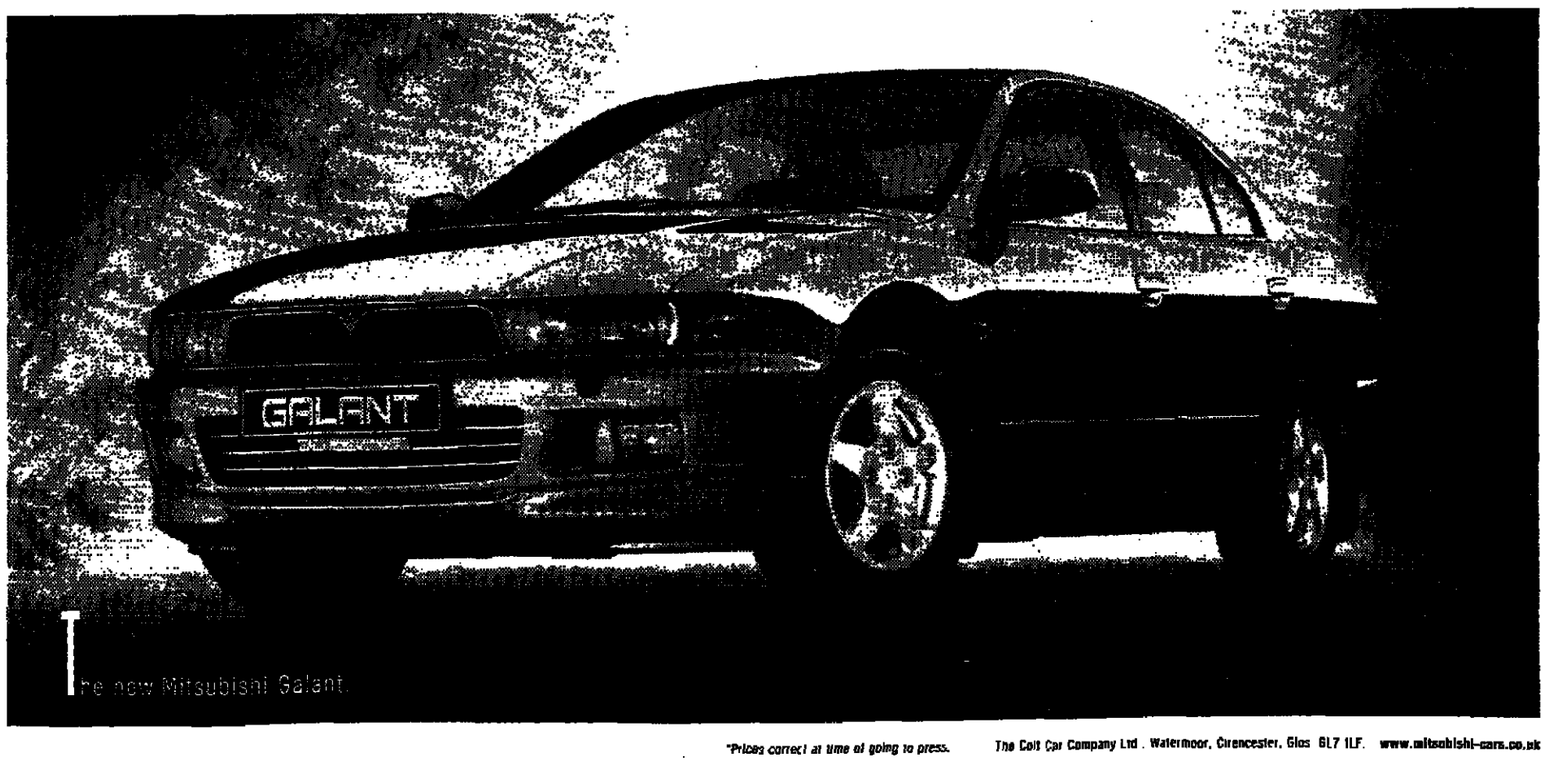
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'Bizarre' conduct not good reason for Caesarean

BY RICHARD DUCE

AS THE woman known as Ms S left Courtroom 66 at the Royal Courts of Justice yesterday, she could not hide a smile that marked her victory in a two-year campaign to prove that she had the right to ignore medical advice and to have control over her body.

But the smile masked a personal history of emotional turmoil that led to the unlawful decision by doctors to carry out the unwanted Caesarean section at a South London hospital.

Thirty-year-old Ms S, a veterinary nurse, had difficulties in forming lasting relationships and a history of depression. In 1993, she had had an abortion at nine weeks and later suffered a miscarriage.

When she became pregnant with her daughter three years later, she was diagnosed as having life-threatening pre-eclampsia and advised that an early delivery was essential. She refused, and Louize Collins, a social worker from Merton Borough Council, southwest London, was called to her GP's surgery to talk to her.

Ms S was adamant that the baby should be born naturally. Miss Collins later recalled: "She seemed tearful. She acknowledged that she is probably depressed, she has had many difficulties of late with relationships, housing, changing jobs and indeed being pregnant with a child that she says she doesn't want, and would give to the father as soon as it is born."

The council and St George's NHS Trust in Tooting embarked on a series of legal moves that culminated in surgery and the birth of a daughter to Ms S on April 26, 1996. Those legal moves were yesterday ruled unlawful.

Ms S had protested to the end and set down her objections in writing: "I have always held very strong views with regard to medical and surgical treatments for myself, and particularly wish to allow nature to 'take its course' without intervention.

"I fully understand that, in certain circumstances, this may endanger my life. I see death as a natural and inevitable point to certain conditions, and that natural events should not be interfered with."

Outside court yesterday, Ms S thanked her legal team before walking off to be with the daughter on whom she now dotes and whom she can continue to raise with the help of expected substantial damages.

The case of Ms S, who had a known history of depression, hinged on a decision by the social worker to detain her under the Mental Health Act. In their ruling yesterday, the judges, headed by Lady Justice Butler-Sloss, sitting with Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Robert Walker, said that the detention of Ms S had amounted to unlawful imprisonment because she had made a lucid statement that she wanted a natural birth, no matter what the consequences.

The judges said: "She is entitled not to be forced to submit to an invasion of her body against her will, whether her own life or that of her unborn child depends on it. Her right is not reduced or diminished merely because her decision to exercise it may appear morally repugnant."

Ms S was admitted to the Springfield Hospital in South London for an assessment of her mental state but almost immediately transferred to St George's, which was a breach of the terms of the Mental Health Act.

When St George's went to the High Court in April 1996 to seek an order for the Caesarean operation, Mrs Justice Hogg was told wrongly that Ms S was in labour and in urgent need of treatment. Ms S decided that "to struggle physically and be overcome would be undignified".

The judges said the Mental Health Act "cannot be deployed to achieve the detention of an individual against her will merely because her thinking process is unusual, even apparently bizarre and irrational, and contrary to the views of the overwhelming majority of the community at large".

They ruled that the doctors involved and the social worker had been motivated by a "genuine desire" to do what was best for both mother and child. Miss Collins had shown courage "in reaching any decision at all in such difficult circumstances".

She is entitled not to be forced to submit to an invasion of her body, whether her own life or that of her unborn child depends on it. Her right is not diminished merely because her decision may appear morally repugnant

Law Report, page 45

JAMES HORTON



Victory in her grasp: Ms S, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, outside the High Court yesterday

Star of team is campaigner for women's rights

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

BARBARA HEWSON, junior barrister in the team that won the landmark Court of Appeal ruling yesterday on Caesarean sections, has long championed the rights of women given medical treatment against their will.

It was an article by Ms Hewson in 1996 airing the issue of courts sanctioning Caesareans being performed on women against their wishes that prompted the woman known as Ms S to contact her with a view to legal action. Yesterday Ms Hewson insisted that Ms S's victory had been achieved by the legal team as a whole. But she has raised public awareness, taking on the might of the High Court Family Division.

In articles and talks she has criticised judges from the President of the Family Division downwards and accused the courts of "rough justice". She wrote: "Such is the lack of judicial attention to fundamental human rights that it appears that even the Court of Appeal no longer cares that women's basic civil liberties are being eroded by stealth and without Parliament's authority." She has also said that judges can sometimes be misled by gender stereotypes.

Other bulwarks of the legal Establishment have been buffeted by her passion for equality: the Inns of Court and the Bar Council. Now joint vice-president of the Association of Women Barristers, she accused the Inns of dragging their feet over the introduction of an equality code.

Her comments brought sniggers from the backwoodsmen at the Bar annual general meeting as well as sniping in the media. But then, as one supporter said: "Barbara is what many barristers cannot cope with — she is extremely articulate, intelligent and confident in her views."

Her work embraces discrimination, human rights, and European and commercial law. Educated at a convent school and Trinity College, Cambridge, she speaks in the best-modulated vowels of the Bar. But her family is Irish (Galway) and that is how she thinks of herself.

Yesterday she praised her colleagues: leading counsel Richard Gordon, QC, a top silk in public law and expert on mental health law; and Richard Stein, barrister-turned-solicitor and partner with Leigh Day & Co. The pair are writing a book on planning laws. Both, too, have worked to achieve pioneering rulings on individual rights.



Hewson: has criticised legal Establishment

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three held over death of police informer

Three men were arrested yesterday for questioning about the murder of James Lawson, a police informer who was shot when he answered the door of his Hampshire home in February.

The men — aged 34, 40 and 49 — were arrested by police in pre-dawn raids in Richmond and Hampton, southwest London, and Sunbury, Surrey. Lawson, 40, had been a supergrass in an American Mafia plot to bring cocaine worth £20 million into Britain each week.

Father jailed

A soldier who shook his four-month-old daughter so hard that she died of brain damage was jailed for four years. Daryn Yelland, 26, was convicted of manslaughter by a jury at Reading Crown Court.

Teletubbies scam

Stephen Hayter, 41, who advertised Teletubbies dolls for sale but simply kept the money sent by parents, was jailed for eight months at Salisbury after admitting deceptions totalling £1,109.

Full marks

James Slocombe, 13, collected £38,000 in Tesco vouchers for school computers in four weeks at Odiham, Hampshire, by packing shopping and collecting tokens from relatives and neighbours.

Carol Thatcher and Anthony-Noel Kelly

A report (Diary, April 10) stated that Carol Thatcher had bought door handles made from crushed human bones produced by the artist Anthony-Noel Kelly. We now understand no such handles were ever made or contemplated. We apologise to both Miss Thatcher and Mr Kelly.

CORRECTIONS

Captions were transposed on photographs of two prize winners in the Women of Achievement in the Law awards (April 28). They were those of Heather Hallett, QC, chairman of the Bar Council, who won first prize, and Patricia Dilley, president of the Institute of Legal Executives, the second prize winner.

A report (April 29) wrongly listed Nelson and Co of Leeds as falling in the category of solicitors receiving between £2 million and £2.5 million from legal aid fees. In fact, the firm concerned was Nelson's of Nottingham.

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You may be lucky enough to be able to talk to someone in your family. Then again, you may be one of the large number of people who find talking to your nearest and dearest agonisingly embarrassing.

A girlfriend or boyfriend? If you can, great. But sometimes we don't want to expose our weaknesses to those who fancy us.

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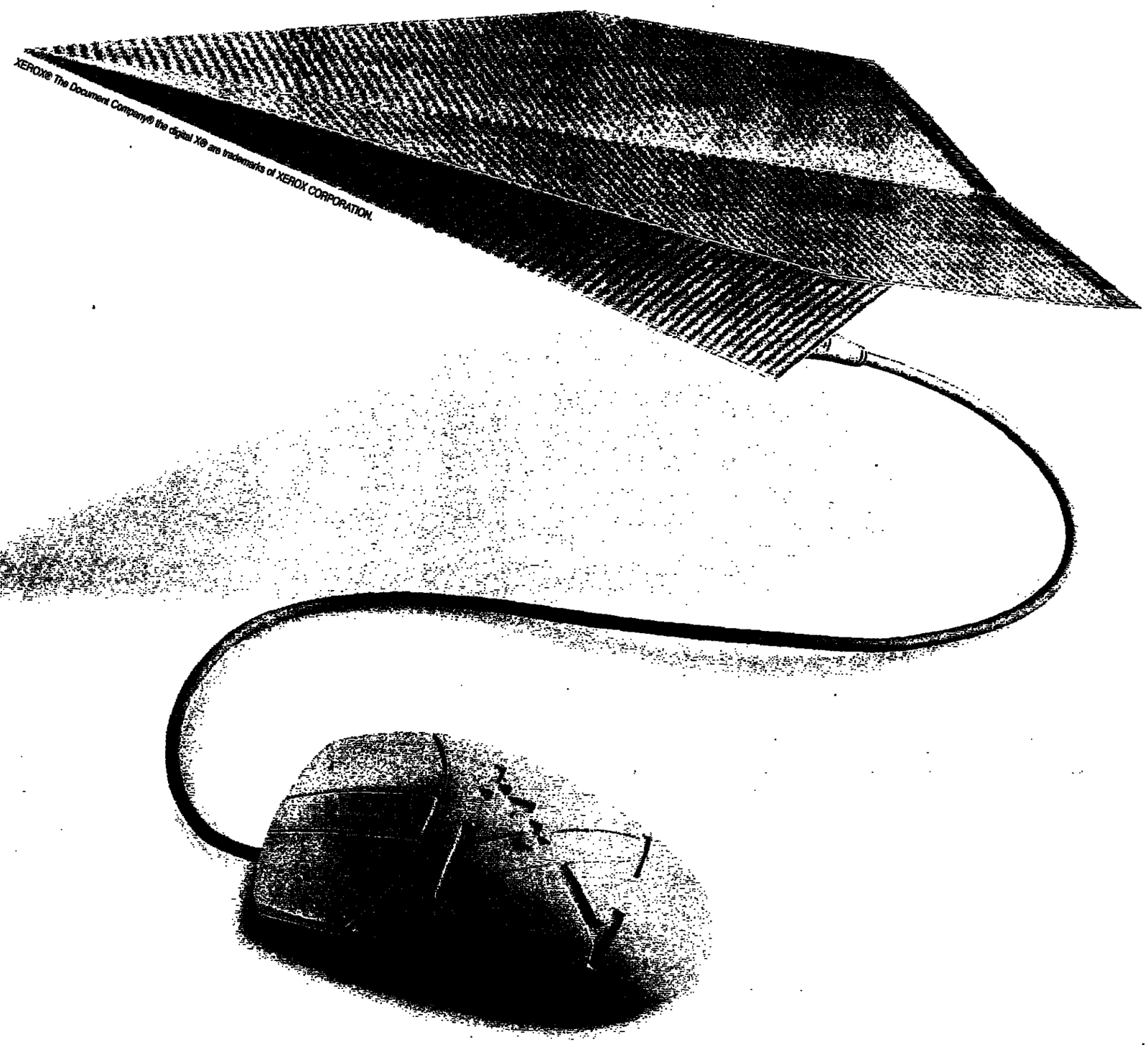
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Cathedral bars paedophile

Man convicted twice of assaulting choirboys is banned from services by bishop, reports **Paul Wilkinson**

CHURCH of England leaders have taken the unprecedented step of barring a convicted paedophile from services. Michael Cope, whose offences include sexual assaults on choir boys, has been ordered never to visit Sheffield Cathedral, nor any church in the South Yorkshire diocese, when young people might be present.

They have also passed on his details to churches of other denominations in the area and, although refusing to identify him publicly, are considering sending a photograph to parishes and circulating the information to neighbouring dioceses. Parents of choirboys at the cathedral, where Mr Cope has recently begun attending services, have been informed personally.

The cathedral ban was contained in a letter delivered in person by diocesan lawyers. It threatened legal action if he failed to comply with the "requirement" not to attend "for any purpose whatsoever".

The Bishop, the Rt Rev Jack Nicholls, has also sent a separate letter telling Mr Cope to keep away from any service in the diocese that might be attended by children.

But yesterday Mr Cope, 49, said: "This is an absolute overreaction by the church authorities. I think it is phobia and hysteria. It is not really related to my actions. There is a general climate not helped by the press. I have spent so many years regretting that this happened and that people were upset.

"I do accept that I broke the law. I am not claiming otherwise. I might have made mistakes in the past but I have absolutely no intention of offending again. I feel this decision is challenging my basic human rights.

"I have not got any immediate plans to contact the diocese. I am going to wait. It will be a hardship of course but it looks like I will not be going to church."

Mr Cope, who previously used the name Copeland, was jailed for nine months in 1988 for assaulting three choirboys. The boys, two aged 12 and one aged 13, sang with a choir in a church in the city's Ranmoor district. In 1995 he was sent to prison again, this time for 18 months, for a sexual assault on a 13-year-old boy whom he had befriended during rehearsals for a performance of an opera in a Sheffield theatre. When he appeared before the city's crown court, he said that he was "addicted to children".



Cope: accused the church authorities of hysteria

The diocesan move against him came after he offered to help as a volunteer worker at Sheffield Cathedral and his background became known.

A statement issued by the Very Rev Michael Sadgrove, Provost of Sheffield, and the Venerable Stephen Lowe, Archdeacon of Sheffield, read: "This course of action gives us no pleasure. The Cathedral is a place where all are welcome, but we have to put first our responsibility, not only morally and spiritually but under the law, to the children and young people whose parents entrust to us their care.

"At the same time we are concerned for this man's welfare. Pastoral support for him will be offered by the diocese. We want to ensure that the cathedral is a safe place for children and young people."

The decision was made after a case conference attended by Mr Cope's former probation officer and a social worker familiar with his case. An officer from South Yorkshire Police's sexual offences unit and the diocesan child protection representative were also present. The statement continued: "They advised us that the risk to the children of the cathedral community was real and significant ... with the full support of the statutory agencies, we have regretably had to take decisive action."

Mr Cope lives alone in a large stone Victorian semi in the Broomhill area of Sheffield. He has lived in the area since he moved from the south west of England 20 years ago. Accommodation in the three-storey house is rented to students. He is known to neighbours as Mr Copeland, and has told some that he is an author. John Monach, a church organist and retired company buyer, said: "He told me he sang in a choir and last week invited me to a concert. It was at a church in Sheffield and I was happy to go. I made my own way there and it was an excellent concert. Mr Copeland's performance was first class. He has a fine baritone voice. I am absolutely astounded to discover his past."

A spokesman for the General Synod said: "As far as we are aware, it is an unprecedented move. This is clearly the church taking steps to safeguard those in its care. The safety of children is of paramount importance."

Detective Superintendent Bob Purdy, of South Yorkshire Police, said: "We think this is a matter for the church. It is important to be aware that child protection is a key issue and safety of the community is a major concern. The Sex Offenders Act requires that convicted offenders must register, and there are obvious benefits for the people and other agencies of being aware where they are rather than driving them underground."

Leading article, page 25

TOMORROW IN THE SATURDAY TIMES

THE SHOE QUEEN

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EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW

Churches seek modern answer to an age-old moral question

Ruth Gledhill on finding balance between forgiveness and protection

WHEN a convicted sex offender is in their midst, churches face the dilemma of how to respond.

They must balance Christian forgiveness against the need to protect the vulnerable. When a woman who had committed adultery was about to be punished, Jesus urged those without sin in the crowd to cast the first stone. When none did, he told her: "Go, and sin no more."

On the other hand, St Paul later laid down firm guidelines for ejecting sexual offenders from the emerging new Christian communities. In 1 Corinthians 5, he condemns a form of sexual immorality among a Christian community "such as even pagans do not tolerate", the relationship of a man with his stepmother. He instructs them to turn out this man from the community and tells them to have nothing to do with those who are "sexually immoral".

There is a right under common law for people to attend their own parish church for "divine service", but only provided that he or she does not cause a disorder. This means a church has the right to bar an individual if the authorities believe they are likely to cause a disorder or constitute a nuisance.

A church spokesman said this was established in the 1937 case, *Cole v Police Constable*. And while Christianity teaches a doctrine of forgiveness, theologians agree that this can only occur when preceded by repentance.

One Church of England theologian, an expert in sexual ethics, said: "In general terms, Paul makes it clear that there are some moral boundaries to Christian fellowship. The Christian notion of forgiveness cannot simply override the need to protect vulnerable people."

Church of England bishops published their policy on child abuse in July 1995, after which every diocese began drawing up their guidelines. Each diocese now has a child protection officer, usually a qualified social worker, who advises the bishop and other clergy on how to respond to different situations.

The Sheffield guidelines, titled *Balance*, published 18 months ago, set out procedures for handling any allegations. They also outline the legal situation, as set out in the Children Act and other legislation concerning organisations where adults come into contact with children.

The Ven Stephen Lowe, Archdeacon of Sheffield, said: "We have not banned anyone. We have requested that he not attend services where children are present. We have continued to offer him pastoral support."

Deirdre Offord, the Bishop of Sheffield's representative on child protection, said: "The primary consideration has to be the protection of children."

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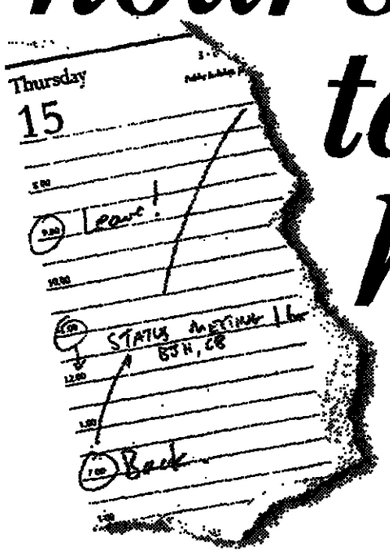
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Doctors hunt hidden victims of sex disease

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG women and their sexual partners are to be screened to detect cases of a widespread disease that has no symptoms but may lead to infertility, miscarriage and chronic pain.

Chlamydia trachomatis is the most common sexually transmitted disease and the number of sufferers is increasing rapidly. There were 32,000 new cases in 1996, up 11 per cent in a year, but as many as 2.5 million people may have the disease without knowing it because there are often no symptoms.

"Chlamydia is the most common, curable sexually transmitted infection in Britain but most people have not heard of it and are consequently unaware of the health risks it poses," Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, said yesterday.

The illness, which is not related to thrush, can be cured within two weeks by antibiotics. Women who are not treated risk having an ectopic pregnancy, becoming infertile and having inflammation of the pelvis which in later years may cause chronic pain.

Two pilot screening programmes are to be established, at a cost of £500,000, to find the best ways to persuade young people to be tested for the disease. The pilot areas, Portsmouth and Wirral, have been chosen because the populations are relatively self-contained and stable. That will make it easier to audit the numbers screened and get an indication for the first time of how prevalent the disease is.

The hope is that two thirds of sexually active women under 25, particularly teenagers, will be tested as well as all women over 25 who have a new sexual partner. Tests should be automatic for all women seeking an abortion and their partners and for all those with genito-urinary infections. In every case where the disease is diagnosed in a woman, her partner should be tested too.

The latest figures from the Public Health Laboratory show that chlamydia was diagnosed in 18,100 women and 13,600 men in Britain in 1996. The number of men with the condition, however, is believed to be at least as high as the number of women.

If the pilot schemes are successful a national screening system will be established to run parallel to those for cervical and breast cancer.

Connie Smith, a member of the expert advisory group on chlamydia, which drew up the recommendations for the Government, said: "For this to work we will have to destigmatise sexually transmitted diseases. People have to come to terms with the consequences of their behaviour."

Jeremy Metters, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer, said that women were the focus of the screening programme because they were more likely than men to attend clinics and be prepared to have the test. "This is a tactical way of going about it," he said. "The disease is a problem for both genders and men need treatment as much as women, otherwise a couple will go on being reinfected."



Height of fashion: heels may take their toll on the knees, say researchers

High heels may cause arthritis in knees

BY IAN MURRAY

HIGH heels may be the reason that osteoarthritis in the knee is twice as common among women as among men, researchers say.

Balancing on the heels increases the stress on the knee joint, especially on the inner side where arthritis is most common.

Twenty women with an average age of 34 were filmed walking barefoot and on 2½in heels on a catwalk fitted with sensors, in tests by Casey Kerrigan and colleagues from Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts.

Reporting in *The Lancet*, the researchers say they found that heels increased the twisting strain on their knees by nearly a quarter. There was also a smaller increase in strain on the hip joint.

"Our findings confirm that wearing high-heeled shoes significantly alters the normal function of the ankle," the report says. "Because of this compromise, compensations must occur at the knee and hip to maintain stability and progression during walking. Our findings suggest that most of these compensations occur at the knee."

New test identifies risk of cancer

BY OUR MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

BLOOD tests to discover concentrations of a natural growth hormone could help to identify younger people at high risk of developing breast or prostate cancer.

Research suggests that women under 50 with high levels of the hormone can be at seven times greater risk of developing breast cancer than women with low levels.

Heavy babies and tall people have higher concentrations of the growth hormone and the researchers write in *The Lancet* that both of these factors increase breast cancer risk. There is also evidence that a low-calorie diet fed to rats decreases the level of the hormone and breast cancer.

The study, carried out at the Channing Laboratory in Boston, Massachusetts, used blood samples taken from 32,000 apparently healthy women in 1989 and 1990. During the next five years blood from the 397 women who developed breast cancer was compared with women who did not get the disease.

The results showed that premenopausal women under 50 with high levels of the hormone had between five and seven times higher risk of developing breast cancer than those who had low levels. The risk was double among older premenopausal women while there was no association once a woman passed the menopause.

In a commentary to the research, Jeff Holly, from the Bristol Royal Infirmary, says that raised levels of the hormone are also associated with prostate cancer. He said nutritional intake was a strong determinant of IGF-I concentration and nutrition in early life may influence cancer risk.

Drug companies accused of pirating native plants

India fears EU directive will enable firms to patent herbs, reports **Nigel Hawkes**

LEADING companies in Britain have been accused of "biopiracy" for patenting plants used for thousands of years in Ayurvedic medicine in India.

Zeneca, Phytopharm and Procter & Gamble have all been attacked by a New Delhi-based pressure group, the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology, which claims that they are exploiting herbs long known in India to have medicinal uses.

The charge comes just a few days before the European Parliament meets to vote on a biotechnology patent directive that critics say will make the patenting of living things easier. The directive has the support of the drug companies. In addition, 22 leading figures, including Sir Richard Sykes, chairman and chief executive of Glaxo Wellcome, and Jan Leschly, chief executive of SmithKline Beecham, have written an open letter to MEPs urging them to approve it. The measure is opposed by environmentalists who argue that it will give drug companies monopoly rights to crops and medicines developed in the Third World, without any compensating benefit.

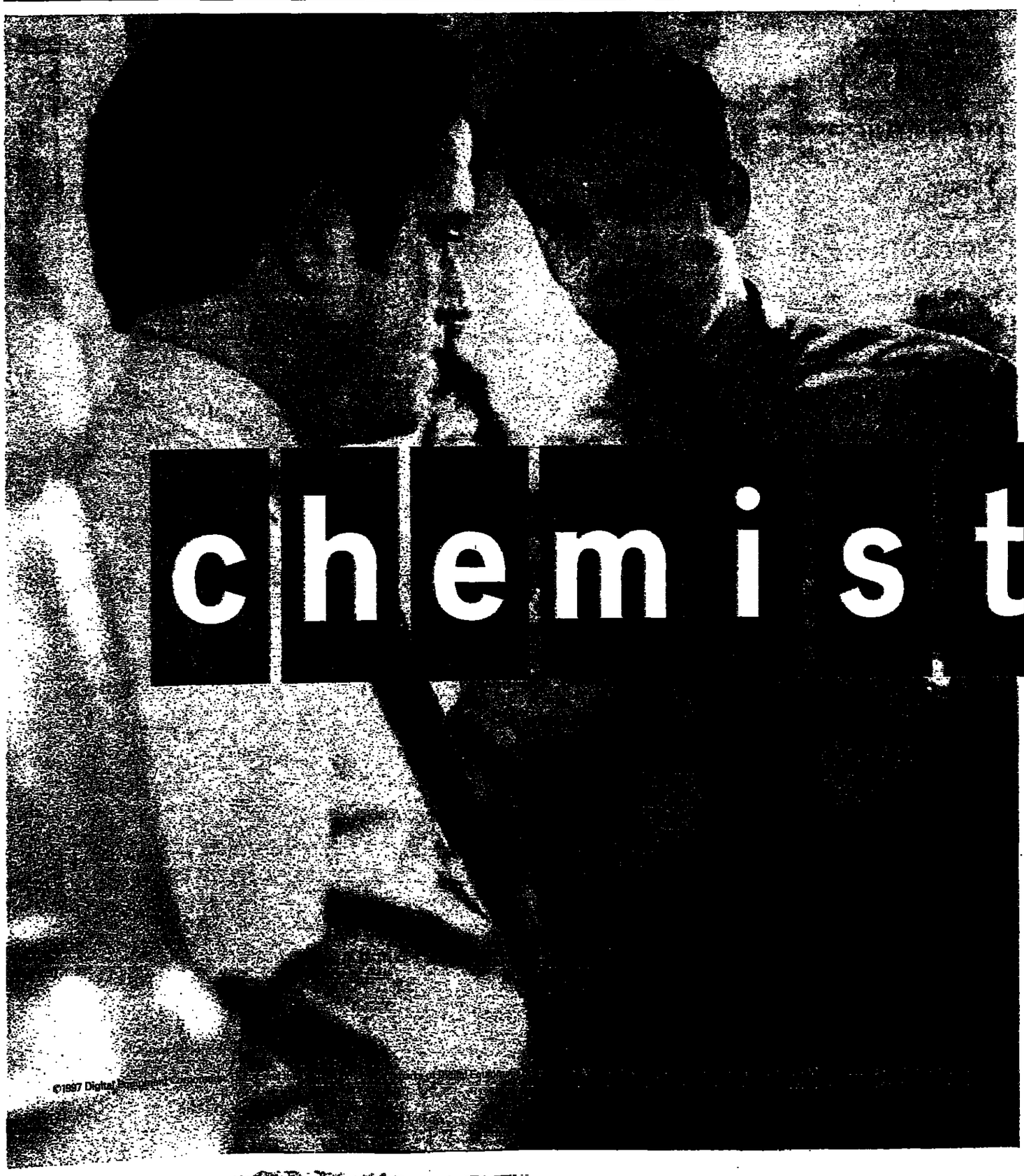
Phytopharm flatly denies the charge of biopiracy. It manufactures Zemaphyte, a treatment for eczema made from *Tribulus terrestris*, a herb that grows widely in Asia. As Chhotagokhru, its Hindi name, the plant is used for treating urinary infections in Ayurvedic medicine. Dr Richard Dixey, chief executive of Phytopharm, said yesterday: "*Tribulus* is widely used, not only in Indian but in Chinese herbal medicine as well. So who owns it? We originally developed Zemaphyte in co-operation with the Chinese and get all our supplies from there. This means that we create employment in China and they do get a benefit. It would be very hard for the Indians to demonstrate they own it, rather than the Chinese."

Zeneca has developed a drug from black nightshade, *Solanum nigrum*, used in Indian medicine for skin and liver disorders; Procter & Gamble has used derivatives of *Euphorbia hirta* to treat gastro-intestinal problems, the same purpose for which the plant is used in India. India has become increasingly reluctant to provide plant material for foreign companies, accusing them of exploitation. But because India has a reputation for producing cheap generic copies of patented Western drugs without payment of royalties, it is hard to tell who is exploiting whom.

The drug industry denies that the new patent directive will give companies monopoly rights to living things, as its critics charge. The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry says that it will do no more than codify existing practice. "This directive is a crucial element in underpinning the exciting work being undertaken by scientists working in biotechnology — an area where Britain excels," Trevor Jones, director-general of the association, says.

The ethical aspects of patents will be overseen by a new group, established by the directive, that should address "the very legitimate concerns that people have about what scientists should and should not be able to do", Dr Jones says.

But the Gaia Foundation, a London-based environmental group, says that the directive will "legalise biopiracy in the corporate interest, at the expense of Third World economies". It is urging MEPs to reject the directive when they vote on Monday.



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Mail-order firm broke law on contact lens sale

Supervision was inadequate, the magistrate said. Adam Fresco reports on a test-case ruling

A COMPANY selling cut-price contact lenses direct to the public by mail order was yesterday found guilty of breaking strict industry guidelines and ordered to pay costs of £50,000.

In what is believed to be the first such case, the General Optical Council, the industry regulator, prosecuted Vision Direct after conducting an undercover operation.

Steffan Rygaard, an entrepreneur who founded the company last May, and Sutantar Sandhu, an optometrist, were each found guilty of breaching the 1989 Opticians Act, which *stipulates* that lenses must be sold "under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner or a registered optician".

The prosecution was seen as a test case by others involved in the contact lens market, which is worth up to £500 million a year. The managing directors of two rival companies, the Lens Warehouse and Direct Lenses, were both in the public gallery during the case at Marylebone Magistrates' Court, Central London.

The General Optical Council said it would now be investigating other companies selling contact lenses by mail order. Mr Rygaard and Mr Sandhu were fined £500 each and ordered to pay costs of £25,000 each. The company itself faced the same charges and was also fined £500.

The court was told that Mr Rygaard was given an ultimatum by the council last July, ordering him to cease trading by the end of the month or face prosecution. Mr Rygaard replied that his company provided customers with substantial savings without jeopardising their health and safety. He said that Vision Direct was based on a successful Danish model that offered a replacement service for existing lens prescriptions only.

All customers, he said, were asked to show that they had had an eye check-up in the past 12 months and had been wearing contact lenses for the past six months. They were told to remove the lenses if they had experienced any discomfort.

Mr Sandhu, a qualified optometrist, was enrolled as a shareholder in the company to supervise the sale of replacement lenses. Timothy Langdale, QC, for the prosecution, said that Mr Sandhu, from Wallasey, Wirral, became involved directly in individual orders only when a problem arose. He would deal with the problem on the telephone to Mr Rygaard's home in Battersea, South London.

Mr Langdale said that by contract high-street practitioners had to carry out regular eye checks and provide comprehensive aftercare when they supplied contact lenses.

Keith Maitland-Davies, the magistrate, said that supervision under the Act meant clinical supervision in a situation where an optician selling contact lenses could control and intervene in the process. That had clearly not happened in the current case.

He added: "The sale of contact lenses cannot be treated just like any other business deal. It concerns the ocular health of the patient, which can be damaged by the very product supplied unless there is compliance by the supplier with Section 27 of the Act."

Vision Direct charges £84 for 12 pairs of PBH Precision UV lenses, compared with £102 from a typical high street optician, and £63 for nine pairs of Hydron Actifresh 400, against £99 in the high street.


GILL ALLEN

Sir Robin Knox-Johnston settling his yacht *Suhaili* into her berth at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich. The 32ft ketch, in which he was the first person to sail singlehanded non-stop around the world, will be part of the £20 million redevelopment of the museum due for completion next April. Sir Robin, 59, said: "I feel bitter-sweet: she has been with me for 35 years and life will be lonely without her"

Towns on alert over parasite in the pipes

By Nick Nuttall
Environment Correspondent

ABOUT 80,000 households in eastern England are facing days, possibly weeks, of boilng tap water amid fears that a potentially deadly parasite has penetrated supplies.

Staff from Anglian Water have been distributing leaflets around Downham Market, Norfolk, and Wisbech and March in Cambridgeshire after cryptosporidium was found in a water sample taken at a treatment works. Experts are trying to find the source.

The parasite can cause sickness, diarrhoea and fever. Occasionally it is fatal among the elderly, babies and those with compromised immune systems. It can get into supplies from farm manure spread on agricultural land. The drought is feared to have increased the ease with which it enters underground waterpipes and aquifers.

The alert, being investigated by the Government's drinking water inspectorate, came as Michael Meacher, an Environment Minister, issued proposals for cracking down on the pest. He said that water companies would be required to monitor treated water continuously for cryptosporidium taken from rivers or through low-capacity storage reservoirs. There were incidents in the West Country in 1995 and in North London last year.

☐ Wessex Water Services was fined £5,000 by Weymouth magistrates after admitting that a million gallons of raw sewage was discharged into the Dorset resort's inner harbour.

Water and food bugs traced by microchip

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

DANGEROUS bacteria in food or the water supply could be identified in hours rather than days, using microchips fashioned by a laser beam.

Tiny tracks on the surface of a chip are used to identify the type of bacterium involved. The tracks are cut by a laser at a facility at the University of Wales in Bangor, opened yesterday by Sir John Cadogan, director-general of the Research Councils.

The chips are made of glass, covered by a thin layer of gold with a plastic layer on top. The laser cuts fine patterns in the plastic, exposing the gold. Samples are placed on the chips and exposed to high-frequency alternating electric fields.

Professor Ron Pethig, who heads the research group responsible, says: "The organisms can be identified by the way they behave when in these fields. We are already able to identify *cryptosporidium* and *E. coli* organisms within hours; current laboratory practice takes days."

The laser facility was made by Exitech, a British company, and financed partly by a grant from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and the Department of Trade and Industry.

The first application of such chips is detecting contamination of drinking water by the parasites *giardia* and *cryptospiridium*. The Bangor group is co-operating with Severn Trent in developing the system.

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Tribunal backs tutor who shared cider with pupil

Tribunal says historic Catholic school unfairly dismissed caring teachers, reports

David Charter

A SENIOR master at England's oldest Roman Catholic school was wrongly sacked after sharing late-night cider and sympathy with a girl pupil, a tribunal ruled yesterday.

Michael Meatyard, head of physics at St Edmund's College in Ware, Hertfordshire, stayed up with 17-year-old Jane Moor until 2.20am and went for a walk with her in the grounds. The boarding mistress complained that the girl was drunk and had mud on her when she returned to her room in the early hours.

An industrial tribunal ruled yesterday that Mr Meatyard had been wrongfully dismissed because it was common for teachers and senior pupils to discuss problems at "coffee evenings" where modest amounts of alcohol were available.

The tribunal also ruled that the £10,800-a-year school had unfairly dismissed another teacher, Ann Helps, who was present while the cider was served and allowed the girl to accompany Mr Meatyard when he took his dog for a late-night walk. The tribunal said that Ms Helps had been forced to resign for "errors of judgment" that did not warrant the sack.

Mr Meatyard, 47, earned £24,000 at the 430-year-old school. He has been a supply teacher at comprehensive schools in Leicester since he was fired in February last year.

The former RAF officer organised the coffee evening with Miss Helps. Miss Moor was the only pupil to attend.

Miss Moor told the tribunal at Bury St Edmunds that she wanted to talk through personal problems and appreciated the teachers' concern for her. "I wasn't drunk but I knew I had been drinking," she told the tribunal. "I wanted some fresh air because it was stuffy in the room."

She denied claims by Teresa King, the head of girls' boarding, that she was drunk, had mud on her arms and face and was stumbling when she returned to school. The tribunal said that Mrs King's evidence had been exaggerated.

In a written ruling yesterday, the tribunal said: "Both teachers may have been guilty of an error of judgment in allowing Jane to stay up so late, but clearly these coffee evenings are intended to introduce these young senior pupils to relax and enjoy social discussions with a modest amount of alcohol being available for their use.

"Mr Meatyard could hardly have refused to allow Jane to accompany him outside when she said that she wished to get some fresh air. There was absolutely no suggestion of any impropriety."

Donald McEwen, the headmaster, did not suspend the teachers but began disciplinary proceedings. He dismissed Mr Meatyard after the teacher wrote to him saying that it seemed inappropriate for him to organise out-of-school activities while his conduct was in question. "Regrettably to us, it appears that the headmaster became upset by the tone of that letter and decided to dismiss," the tribunal said.

Mr Meatyard, who is married with two children, said yesterday after the ruling: "I have found it impossible to get a permanent job with this hanging over me.

"The school overreacted. I felt that it was a bit silly perhaps to allow the evening to go on so late. But you were expected to provide refreshments for older sixth-formers and that refreshment was alcohol." The teachers' compensation will be decided later.

The governors of St Edmund's said they were considering an appeal. A statement said: "They note that the tribunal has not accepted the view of the governing body as to the standard of behaviour to be expected from these teachers."



MASONS

Parents pay £10,800 a year to send a child to St Edmund's College. Below, Donald McEwen, the headmaster





Michael Meatyard and Ann Helps organised the "coffee evening" that only one pupil attended

Teachers learn how to restrain violent children

BY LYNNE GREENWOOD AND MARK HENDERSON

TEACHERS at special schools are being trained to restrain violent pupils in safety by an expert from a high-security special hospital. The method may be extended to mainstream schools.

Bill Thorpe is head of training at Ashworth Special Hospital in Merseyside, where inmates include the Moors murderer Ian Brady. He has developed a restraint technique for use on children and plans to offer training to teachers in mainstream schools, where guidelines issued in February allow "the use of reasonable force to control or restrain pupils".

He has already instructed staff in 17 special schools and hospitals. A three-day course teaches holds that minimise the risk of suffocation by avoiding the neck and chest, co-ordinated teamwork in handling a violent pupil, and identifying "trigger factors" that may cause violence.

Staff are also taught "break-away techniques" to escape attack, and ways to move a violent child through a door, up or down stairs, along a corridor and on and off school transport.

Mr Thorpe, a member of the Royal College of Nursing Institute panel which sets national standards for aggression management, has dealt with more than 400 violent incidents over 18 years at Ashworth. He adapted his techniques after spending time observing the relationships between staff and pupils at special schools.

Ken Jackson, head of Gilbrook Primary School, a special school in Birkenhead, said of Mr Thorpe's technique: "It has been the most useful piece of in-service training we have ever had and would definitely benefit teachers in all schools where there is a problem. Our problems were how to handle children attacking each other and sometimes attacking staff. This has reduced the incidents."

Bev Riley, deputy head of Longmoor School in Liverpool, for children with severe learning difficulties, said: "Children here can display very challenging behaviour at times — a chair can go flying — and this training has given us clear guidance on how to manage a situation safely.

Nat Cary, a Home Office pathologist at Papworth Hospital, Cambridgeshire who is an expert in deaths caused by restraint, said: "This is the kind of training that ought to be more widely available to the police and prison service, and might start to prevent deaths in custody."

Parents making unhealthy choice

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

GIVING parents a greater choice of where they send their children to school helps to make youngsters unfit and less independent, researchers have discovered. Journeys to school are on average 20 per cent longer than they used to be but two-thirds of parents are so worried about their children that they rarely let them go out on their own.

The survey, published in the *British Medical Journal* today, was carried out after Government research that showed the annual distance children walk has fallen by 28 per cent since 1972. In the inner-London area where the survey was done, cycling to school is almost unknown, even though 72 per cent of the children own a bicycle.

"Increasing car use has been linked with obesity, adverse health effects in later life, limitations on children's independence, traffic congestion and pollution," say the researchers from the Child Health Monitoring Unit at University College London Medical School. The survey was of more than 2,000 children aged six and seven, and nine and 10 at 31 schools in Camden and Islington.

Although 82 per cent of children lived within a mile of school, just 69 per cent walked there and only four of the 2,000 children cycled. Although just 19 per cent lived more than a mile from the school, 26 per cent were driven to and from by their parents and 5 per cent used public transport.

Only 16 per cent of the children were allowed to go to school on their own.

Summing up their findings, the authors say policies to encourage children to attend nearby schools are likely to reduce car travel and increase walking.

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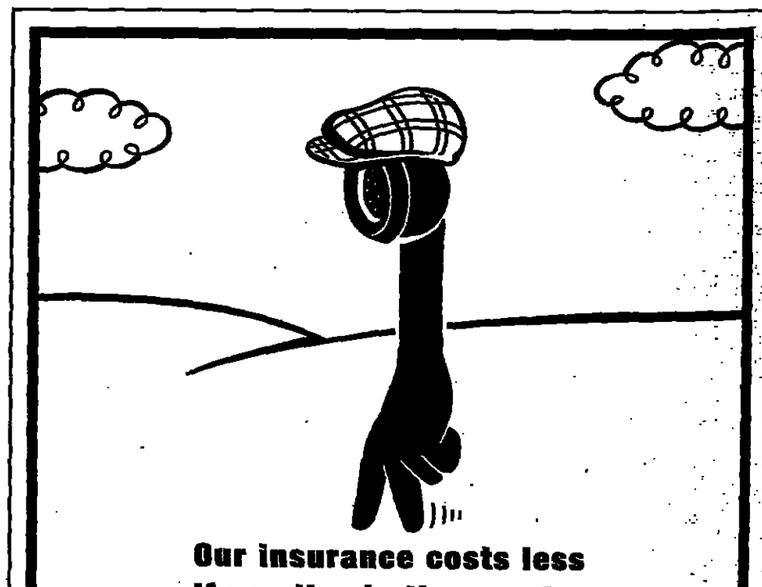
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Briton given 33 years for abusing Thai boys

Andrew Drummond reports from Phuket on the downfall of a self-styled Emperor Nero

A BRITISH paedophile who lured Thai boys to uninhabited tropical islands was jailed for 33 years yesterday. As James Fraser Darling, 47, was led away in chains from Phuket District Court he issued a statement describing his sentence as a crime against humanity.

Fraser Darling, the son of the late Oxford don and Scottish ornithologist Sir Frank Fraser Darling, was sentenced to five years each on nine charges of separating children from their parents and six months each on nine indecent assault charges.

Judge Somrek said he was reducing the total of 48 years 6 months only because Fraser Darling, from Edinburgh, had admitted in part to some of the offences. The highest penalty imposed on a foreigner on paedophile charges in recent years was that against Dennis Jones, 44, who received 40 years for raping four boys in the northeastern Thai province of Khon Kaen.

Fraser Darling described Thailand in his protest against the sentence as "an unreconstructed police state which fought against us in the Second World War".

The Phuket court had been told that he had obtained a job teaching English at the Prince of Songkhla University in the city. He rented a house at Rawai Beach beside a community of "sea gypsies" known locally as Chao Lay.

He befriended many of the boys, who were accustomed to walking about naked, and ingratiated himself into the community by buying presents that included clothes, food, cycles and even a boat.

The nine boys named in the charges, all under 15 and one as young as eight, would go with him on sea trips to outlying uninhabited islands in the Andaman Sea where most of the sexual offences took place.

> "Thai children corrupted by foreigners grow up to corrupt others. We hope this will be a deterrent"

He arrived in Thailand four years ago and was arrested in November 1995 after he was reported to police by two organisations, Phuket Child Watch and the Centre for the Protection of Children's Rights.

Fraser Darling was said to imagine himself as Nero and to fantasise about orgies with boys. A book published by the Spartacus organisation, a European group linked to paedophilia, was found in his house. A chapter written by "J. Darling" described Roman orgies with boys but Fraser Darling denied that he was the author.

A piece of paper he gave out after the case headed "Statement" read: "The verdict reveals this country to be not a democracy governed by law but still an unreconstructed police state which fought against us in the Second World War. Not only have the Thai authorities abused the rights of a British subject, not only have they committed an atrocity against a minority people, the Chao Lay, but also they have convicted themselves of a crime against humanity."

Fraser Darling, whose mother, Lady Christina Darling of Forres, Inverness, died while he was on trial, claimed that the boys had been pressured into giving evidence against him. The prosecuting lawyer said that he was satisfied with the results of the case. "The same would have happened if a Thai person was facing these charges," he said.

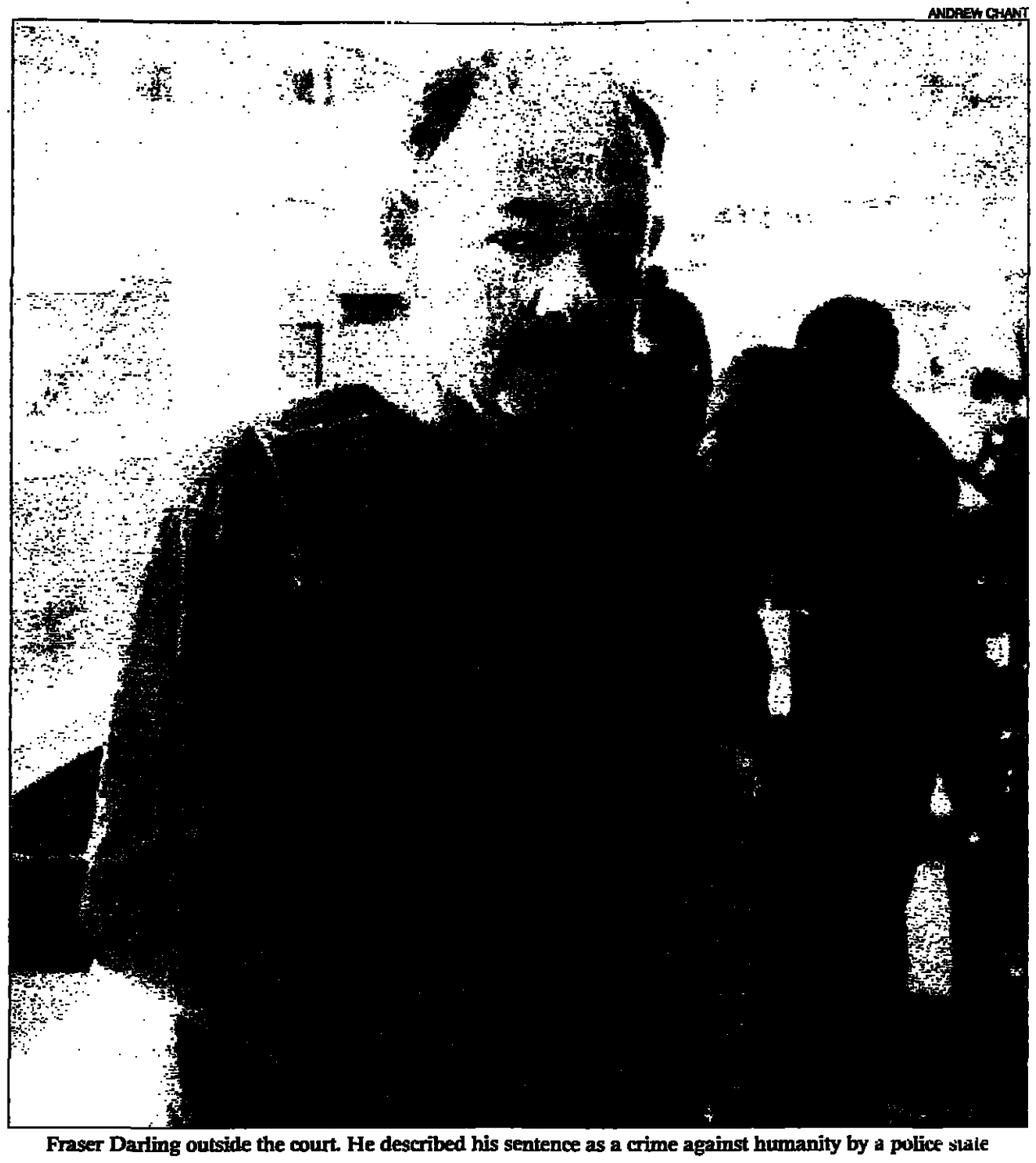
Chalermsak Pattarasumamp, Chief Judge of Phuket Provincial Court, said after the case: "He can appeal to the appeals court and after that to the Supreme Court. I do not know if it will have any effect on foreigners who come here to abuse Thai children."

The court's sentence was welcomed by Face, a coalition against child exploitation, which has been monitoring suspected paedophiles in Thailand. Sudarat Sereewat, its secretary, said: "Thai children corrupted by foreigners grow up to corrupt others. We hope this will be a deterrent."

The activities of Fraser Darling had been brought to the attention of police by Ecpat (End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children For Sexual Purposes) and the Centre for the Protection of Children's Rights in Bangkok.

Fraser Darling, whose brother, a senior Foreign Office intelligence officer, did not attend the court, claimed that he was the victim of a witch-hunt by non-government agencies. He said in an earlier statement: "I'm being fed to the lions."

ANDREW CHANT



Fraser Darling outside the court. He described his sentence as a crime against humanity by a police state

Campaigners fight attitudes and abuse in paedophile paradise

Andrew Drummond reports on why police in Thailand find it easier to take a bribe than investigate crimes against children

Convicted paedophiles escaping what they claim is a "witch-hunt" in Britain can survive happily in Thailand alongside local police who have been willing to accept bribes, watchdog groups have claimed.

As many as 90 per cent of paedophiles arrested in Thailand never make it to court due to corruption, according to the Foundation for the Protection of Children. The group claims some police officers have even provided children for sex.

A second watchdog group, Face — the Coalition to Fight Against Child Exploitation — claimed that if its members did not monitor police activity, the prosecution rate would even be lower.

Sudarat Sereewat, the secretary of Face and a member of the Thai Government Committee on Justice and Human Rights, said the decision to allow the naming of paedophiles in Britain would only serve to increase the exodus.

Officers from Northumbria Police who specialise in child abuse cases will run courses for police in Thailand from Monday. Northumbria's Assistant Chief Constable, Antony Crimmens, was enthusiastic about the initiative. "We can do it together. We are police. We speak the same language," he said.

But in a country where the typical male answer to the greeting "Are you going out tonight?" translates as "Yes, I am going to see the children," the British police may find they have more to cope with than language problems.

Visiting foreign police are also routinely taken out to sample the bars of Bangkok's red-light district.

British officers in Thailand have no brief to raise the issue of paedophiles who have made the country their second home. Meanwhile, back in London, officers at the National Criminal Intelligence Service are reportedly "tearing their hairs out one by one" at the inability of Interpol's Thai office to provide information on known British paedophiles who have taken apartments in Bangkok, Pattaya and on the holiday island of Phuket.

The typical Thai policeman has to pay for his own uniform, gun and petrol for his car. Investigations cost money, and in the absence of cash, often nothing gets done. Even so, Ms Sereewat cannot understand how an English language teacher from Manchester, who boasted that he gave his Thai pupils extra marks if they had sex with him, was able to flee the country after being arreste in possession of videos showing him having sexual intercourse with a number of boys.

She said: "These are day-to-day problems. Many Thai police had to completely re-educate themselves in regard to women, to have a conscience. The problem remains the attitude of the police. For many it is easier to take the money than pursue a case."

Ms Sereewat told of a case where a policeman in Pattaya set up a charity called Charlie's Shelter for Street Boys with an Swiss air steward, which was a cover for child abuse. When the abuse came to light, the air steward was granted bail and simply left the country. "In such cases, police up the price of the bail and would think the foreigner stupid if he stayed in the country."

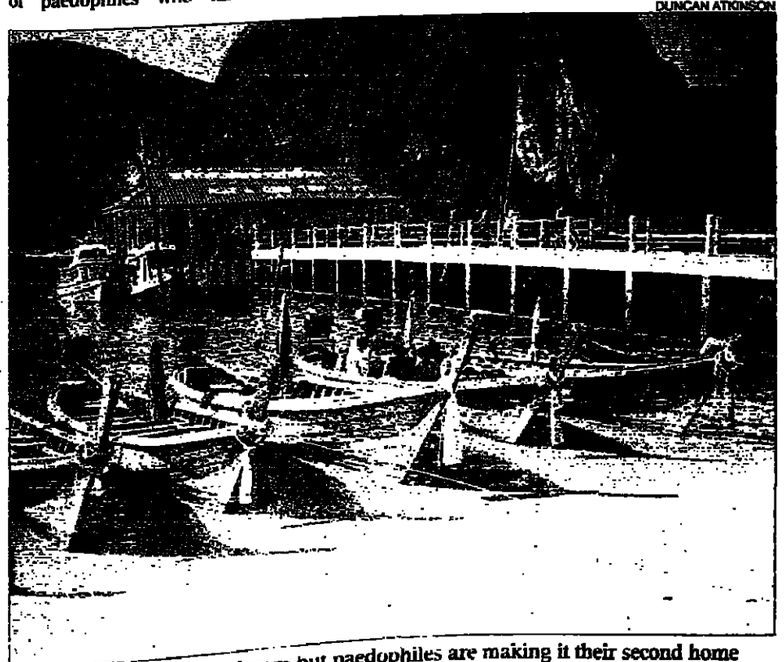
She added: "We have been successful recently in seeing that justice has been done but it is impossible to watch all the cases all the time. We are watching this British plan with interest. It is clearly well intentioned, but the reality is that we have to change the attitude of an entire police force."

Montri Sinthavichai, the secretary of the Children's Protection Foundation, said he expected that 90 per cent of all cases brought against paedophiles next year would not get to court. A lot of times the accused will do a deal with police to turn it around so that it is not a case of sexual abuse against children. All this is because police take bribes from the wrongdoers."

Of local child sex cases he had investigated in Thailand, 36 per cent were committed by teachers or monks, and 38 per cent by immediate relatives.

The future, however, is not all bleak. The current Government of Chuan Leekpai has played a much stronger role in the promotion of human rights than previous administrations. His Deputy Secretary, Laddawan Wongsiwong, has played an active role in protecting children's rights, and one of Thailand's chief prosecutors, Wanchai Roujanavong, an advisor to the Attorney-General on Foreign and International Crime, is an active campaigner against abuse.

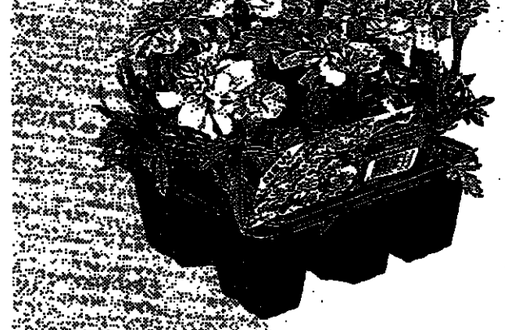
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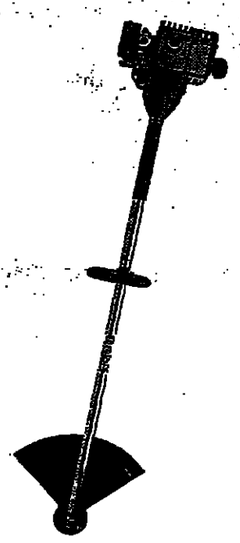


Phuket is a visitor's dream but paedophiles are making it their second home

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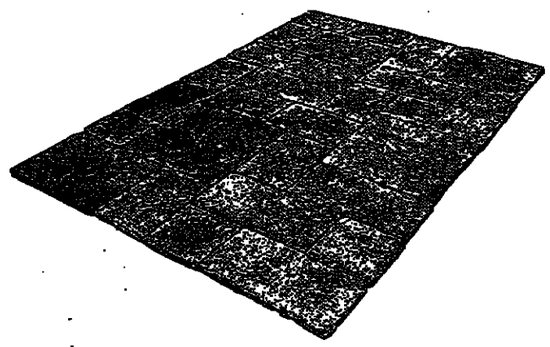


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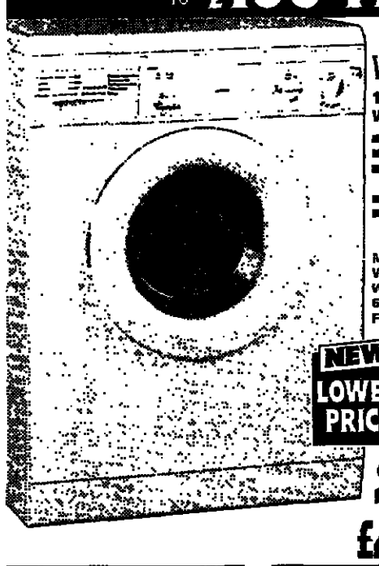
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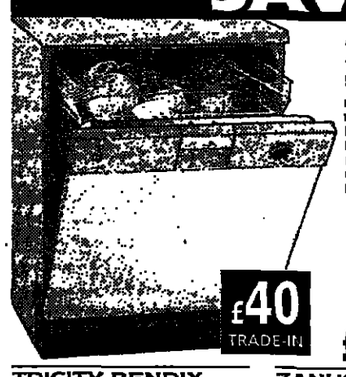
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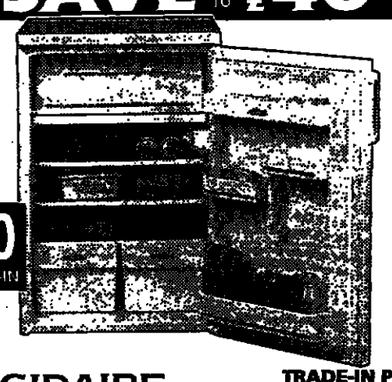
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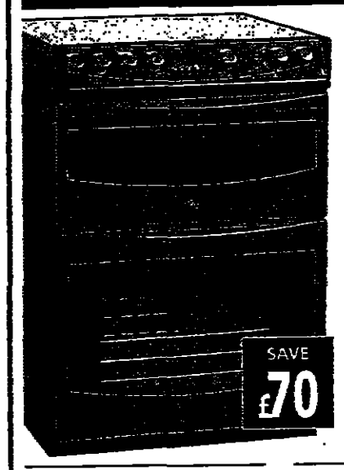
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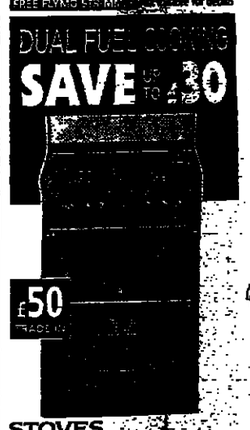


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THE TIMES FRIDAY MAY 8 1998

Pressure grows on minister at centre of arms sales debacle

By Nicholas Watt, Polly Newton and Michael Evans

TONY LLOYD, the Foreign Office Minister at the centre of allegations about arms to Sierra Leone, was under increasing pressure last night after he gave MPs inaccurate information about the affair.

Labour backbenchers gave warning yesterday that Mr Lloyd's position was weakening by the day because he gave inadequate answers to a Commons committee on Tuesday, some of which turned out to be inaccurate. One Labour MP said: "Tony Lloyd is dead in the water. He must be very vulnerable in the forthcoming ministerial reshuffle." The Prime Minister's official spokesman gave lukewarm backing to the minister, who is said to be despondent.

Asked whether Mr Lloyd retained Mr Blair's confidence, the spokesman said: "Yes". Asked why, he said: "Because he is a member of the Government." Mr Lloyd appeared surprised by the interest in Sierra Leone during the Foreign Affairs Select Committee on Tuesday. He said that he was only informed of the Customs and Excise investigation into the arms allegations last Friday. Mr Cook later clarified the minister's comments, telling MPs that Mr Lloyd was informed of the investigation in mid-April, but not fully briefed by his officials until Friday.

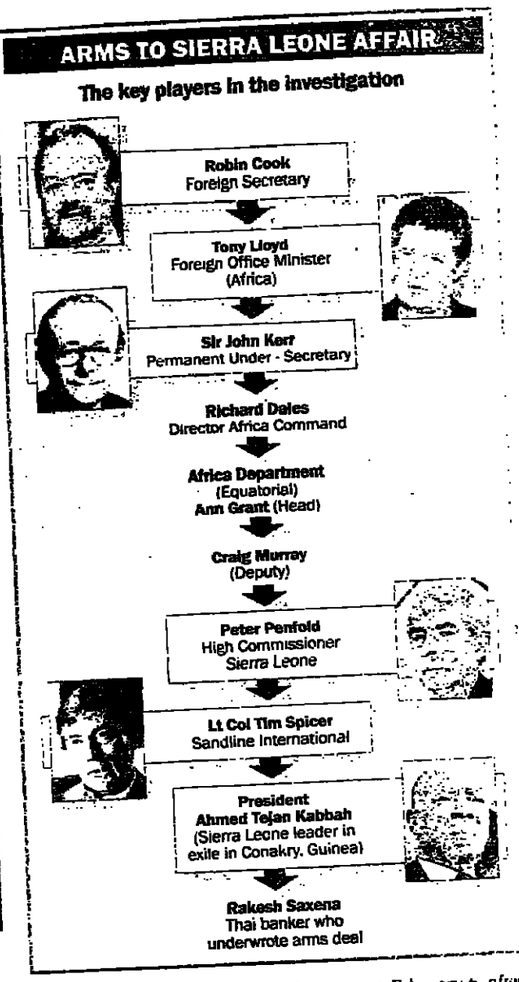
Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker, said that the correction of any mistake was between the minister and the committee.

Mr Cook is said to feel that the conduct of his officials — particularly their failure to inform him about the Customs and Excise investigation for two months — has highlighted weaknesses within the Foreign Office.

Sandline International, the security company at the heart of the arms-for-Sierra Leone affair, is expected to make a statement today.



Tony Lloyd, Foreign Office Minister responsible for Africa, has blamed Whitehall officials



Deal that granted mandarins' wish

Michael Evans weighs the evidence that the coup in the West African state was encouraged by Britain

EVER since the coup in Sierra Leone, led by the Sandhurst-trained Major Johnny Koromah, senior officials at the Foreign Office appeared to have made up their minds that the "botom line" as far as strategy was concerned was to see the return of President Kabbah.

The question that has to be answered by the inquiry into the Foregn Office's handling of the affair is whether the determination of those senior officials to see President Kabbah back in power provided an indirect "green light" for others tohatch a plot to bring this about.

Mr Kabbah was returned to power in Sierra Leone in March uding the Nigerian-led West African peacekeeping force based in Liberia, and backed by heavy weaponry provided by a British company based in Chelsea, west London.

Mr Kabbah had fled to Guinea after the military coup in May last year. Peter Penfold, the British High Commissioner, was also exiled in Guinea and, by the time the counter-coup was hatched late last year and a deal had been struck with an Indian-born Thai banker, Rakesh Saxena, to supply the funds, Mr Penfold had been in touch with all the key players.

The pro-Kabbah policy was pursued despite warnings from Lord Avebury, the Liberal Democrat peer and head of a parliamentary human rights group, that Mr Kabbah had questionable links with a growing ethnic militia in Sierra Leone called the Kamajors.

Lord Avebury, who had been in correspondence with the Foreign Office about Sierra Leone since 1996, was rebuffed when he suggested a better option was to see a more representative constitutional government replace the military junta.

Clandestine operations are normally the preserve of MI6, the Secret Intelligence Service. Had there been an official decision to topple the military junta by arming and supporting the Nigerian-led force, using MI6 operatives, certain procedural steps would have been taken.



Koromah: coup leader trained at Sandhurst

Firstly, the recommendation to use MI6 in a secret operation would have been drafted by the Deputy Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office in charge of defence and intelligence, who until the beginning of this year was Kevin Tebbit, now Director of GCHQ, the Government's secret eavesdropping centre in Cheltenham. He was succeeded by Francis Richards, former number two at the British Embassy in Moscow.

Any MI6 operation involving direct action has to be approved by the Foreign Secretary himself. But there is no evidence, or even suggestion, that MI6 had anything to do with the Sierra Leone plot. By implication, this was confirmed by Robin Cook when he told the Commons that he knew nothing of the alleged Foreign Office link to the counter-coup until very recently. If MI6 had been involved in any way, either directly or indirectly, Mr Cook would have known. Yet Sandline International, the Chelsea-based security company run by Lieutenant-Colonel Tim Spicer, a former Scots Guards officer, was convinced that its action in supplying heavy weapons to the Nigerian-led force had been approved by the Foreign Office.

It has been admitted Colonel Spicer had talks with Mr Penfold, but the High Commissioner would not have been in a position to authorise anything on his initiative without referring back to superiors in London, though he had proved to be a highly proactive diplomat in a dangerous period in Sierra Leone.

It also seems inconceivable that the Foreign Office could get involved in approving the shipment of arms for use in a plot to overthrow the military junta in Sierre Leone without officials sending a paper to the relevant minister, especially with Sandline involved.

There was also the question of the financing of the counter-coup. The initial deal for mounting an operation was agreed between President Kabbah and Mr Saxena, the Indian-born Thai banker, who said he would underwrite Sandline's shipment of arms from Bulgaria, via Nigeria, to Liberia where the Nigerian-led peacekeeping force, Ecomog, was based.

Mr Saxena, arrested with the suspect passport in Vancouver, is facing extradition to Thailand, where he is wanted on charges of embezzling $2 billion from a Bangkok bank. It is alleged that he arranged with Mr Kabbah to pay for the services of Sandline in return for commercial concessions in Sierra Leone, where he was trying to expand his business interests.

Anything so politically sensitive as a Foreign Office-approved plot in a country as volatile as Sierra Leone, even though it was the elected "good guy" being returned to power, should automatically have ended up in the private office of the minister, especially in a Government which has espoused an ethical foreign policy embracing every area, particularly arms sales. With such a moral standpoint, there would seem to be no room for government-approved free-lance operations, even if the public perception was that the West African force that carried out the counter-coup was acting under a UN mandate. It was not, and this was a matter of some concern at the time to the Foreign Office, whose spokesmen made it clear that Ecomog was acting without legitimate authority.

The way the Foreign Office works, it would just not be possible for, say, the head of the Africa Department (Equatorial), which is responsible for Sierra Leone, personally to approve Sandline's involvement on behalf of the Government in helping to oust Major Koromah, without taking the matter higher up.

> "If MI6 was involved, Robin Cook would have known"

Mr Cook has already made it clear that, as far as he is concerned, the fault lies with officials for not telling him what was going on. Tony Lloyd, the Foreign Office Minister responsible for Africa, has also blamed officials. This has led to a witch-hunt in the Foreign Office, and some senior officials are saying that "outrageous allegations" are being made against named civil servants who are prevented from speaking out in their defence.

The head of the Africa Department (Equatorial) is Ann Grant and her deputy is Craig Murray. Their immediate superior is Richard Dales, who has the new grand title of Director Africa Command. Lord Avebury, whose letter to the Foreign Office on February 6 spelt out the involvement of Sandline in the Sierra Leone counter-coup, met Ann Grant at the Foreign Office on January 23 to talk about Sierra Leone.

It was to her that he wrote the letter on February 6, after reading reports of Sandline's arms deal on the Internet. She replied on February 26 that the Foreign Office had referred the matter to Customs and Excise. During a Commons debate on March 12 Mr Lloyd denied allegations of British collusion in Sierra Leone but did not mention the Customs investigation. The Foreign Secretary said there was no ministerial involvement and he only learnt of the Customs investigation last Friday. Whatever the origins of the plot, the Foreign Office, now facing an independent investigation, is suffering from a classic case of officials versus ministers. There is evidence of growing resentment within the diplomatic corps at the way the Foreign Secretary and his junior minister are, as some see it, shifting the blame for the embarrassing revelations.

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Rugby chief mauls Mandela hopes

Wounds of apartheid are reopened as South Africa's sporting world tears itself apart, writes **Sam Kiley**

WHEN Nelson Mandela donned the Springbok jersey and celebrated South Africa's Rugby World Cup victory a year into his presidency, Afrikaners and black South Africans wept openly and hailed a new dawn of racial harmony. Three years later bitter racial wounds have been reopened over an attempt to rid rugby administration of the lowering presence of Louis Luyt.

Dr Luyt, a pillar of the apartheid establishment who was close to the then Prime Minister, John Vorster, and set up pro-National Party newspapers to drum up support for white rule, yesterday turned a deaf cauliflower ear to calls for his resignation, stuck out his jaw and repeated a favourite Afrikaner slogan.

"I bow to no man but God," said the former captain of the Orange Free State, whose stand against the National Sports Council (NSC) was being interpreted by his critics as a stand against democracy in South Africa.

His defiance of a call from the NSC to resign after he drugged President Mandela into court in an attempt to block a presidential commission of inquiry into allegations of racism and nepotism in rugby's administration — and won — has been likened to that taken by the former President, P.W. Botha, against the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

White readers of sports pages who have defended Dr Luyt's resistance, yesterday started their own small campaign to undermine an international boycott of the Springboks which the NSC is expected to announce today. Local journalists quoted the callers as saying: "If they [black people] want to disrupt our rugby matches, we'll disrupt their football games."

The threat highlights the extent to which sport is becoming a racial issue in South Africa, and just how much an attack on rugby strikes at the heart of Afrikaner culture where the game is more important than family or church to many.

The Sports Minister, Steve Tshwete, said recently that he would take the NSC recommendations to the South African Cabinet, where they would be rubberstamped by ministers. Mr Mandela would then throw his moral authority behind a boycott reminiscent of the international isolation of the apartheid era.

The Sarfu issue has now gone far beyond rugby and sharpened already bitter racial divisions along sporting lines. While the national cricket side recently fielded a young black player, and soccer remains the favourite sport among blacks (though several whites play for Bafana Bafana, the national team) rugby remains the preserve of the white elite in general, and Afrikaners in particular — although one Coloured (mixed race) player, the wing Chester Williams, did represent South Africa in the World Cup.

"The responsibility for the terrible things that will now happen to rugby will now rest fairly and squarely on Dr Luyt's shoulders. It is a terrible day for rugby," Silas Nkanunu, Sarfu's former senior vice-president and Dr Luyt's deputy, who resigned yesterday, said.

This week the powerful Congress of South African Trades Unions called on Dr Luyt to resign and throw his formidable weight behind calls for mass action to disrupt rugby both domestically and overseas.

Mluleki George, the NSC chairman, said: "The anger of the black people in this country [means] when we say we're going to stop everything, we mean it.

"You must understand some of us are rugby people, so we don't want rugby to be hurt. But we have to transform this country. Our people have suffered for years, so there are more important issues related to this."



ROSS SETFORD / AP

President Mandela, wearing the Springbok jersey, presents François Pienaar, the South African team's captain, with the Rugby World Cup in June 1995



Botha: relationship "too impractical"

Botha, 82, breaks links with fiancée, 47

Johannesburg: P.W. Botha, the former South African President, has broken off his engagement to Reinette Te Water Naudé, 35 years his junior

***Beeld*, the Afrikaans-language daily, quoted Mr Botha as saying the engagement was off "because our separate interests in Graaff Reinet and Wilderness [their respective hometowns] make it impractical".**

Mr Botha, 82, is on trial for refusing to testify to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. ***(Reuters)***

Pupils 'played Nazis'

Johannesburg: White pupils aged 16 and 17 at a South African school dressed up as Nazis, wearing T-shirts with swastikas, and acted out the delousing of Jews — reminiscent of the wartime death camps — before urging that they be killed, Jewish officials said yesterday. The schoolchildren were taking part in a team-building meeting for school athletics. "A school fails its children if it teaches them no moral conscience. And this shows a failing in that regard," said Brigitte Bardavid, of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies. ***(Reuters)***

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Suicide Guard 'sought justice'

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE alleged killer of the commander of the Pope's Swiss Guards received a Vatican funeral yesterday as a newspaper disclosed the purported text of his suicide note in which he called himself a crusader for justice.

The family of Vice-Corporal Cedric Tornay, 24 — who the Vatican says shot Colonel Alois Estermann and his wife Gladys before killing himself — was also quoted as saying that the Holy See was withholding the whole truth.

La Stampa, publishing excerpts evidently leaked by a Vatican magistrate, said Tornay wrote: "I must avoid other injustices being born." He said, apparently to two sisters, "I am sorry to leave you alone", adding: "They forced me to do what I will do".

Tornay had handed the letter to a Swiss Guards' comrade on Monday, shortly before he allegedly went berserk and carried out the shootings.

The leak was evidently in response to criticism of the Holy See by Tornay's sister, Melinda, 25. "I think that the Vatican will not tell us all the truth about the death of my brother," she said at the family home in Martigny, Switzerland. She added that by Wednesday they had yet to receive a copy of the letter, but yesterday Dr Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the Vatican chief spokesman, said it had at last been delivered to the halberdier's mother, Muguette Tornay.

Four Swiss Guards bore Tornay's wooden coffin into their chapel of Sant'Anna for his funeral, which followed a more elaborate one for the Estermanns in St Peter's Basilica on Wednesday.

Some 300 people, including scores of former Guards, many young women and Tornay's former Italian fiancée, crammed into the chapel. In a moving moment, Mrs Tornay turned in the front pew to offer her hand to Colonel Estermann's parents in a sign of peace.

WORLD SUMMARY

Dockers return to work

Sydney: Trade union members returned to work yesterday in Australian docks which have been frozen for a month by a labour dispute.

Hundreds of supporters cheered and union leaders cried as the gates of Patrick Stevedores' dock in Melbourne were opened, allowing workers to cross over what has been the front line in a national battle for control of the waterfront. *(AP)*

Sudan pledge

Nairobi: Sudan will hold a referendum on self-determination in the south, the Foreign Minister, Mustafa Osman Ismail, said after peace talks in Kenya. *(Reuters)*

Chinese flee

Medan: Indonesia military flew reinforcements into this city as hundreds of commercially dominant ethnic Chinese fled, victims of riots that sent the rupiah tumbling. *(AP)*

Floods exodus

Geneva: Flooding caused by torrential rains has forced 75,000 people from their homes in Paraguay and is still rising in the south of the county, UN officials said. *(Reuters)*

Hamas ban

Cape Town: Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, founder of Hamas, the militant Palestinian group, has been denied a visa to visit South Africa, Muslim groups here said. *(Reuters)*

Farewell blues

Tokyo: Tens of thousands of wailing fans converged on a temple for the funeral of Hideto Matsumoto, 33, lead guitarist of the X Japan rock group who hanged himself. *(Reuters)*

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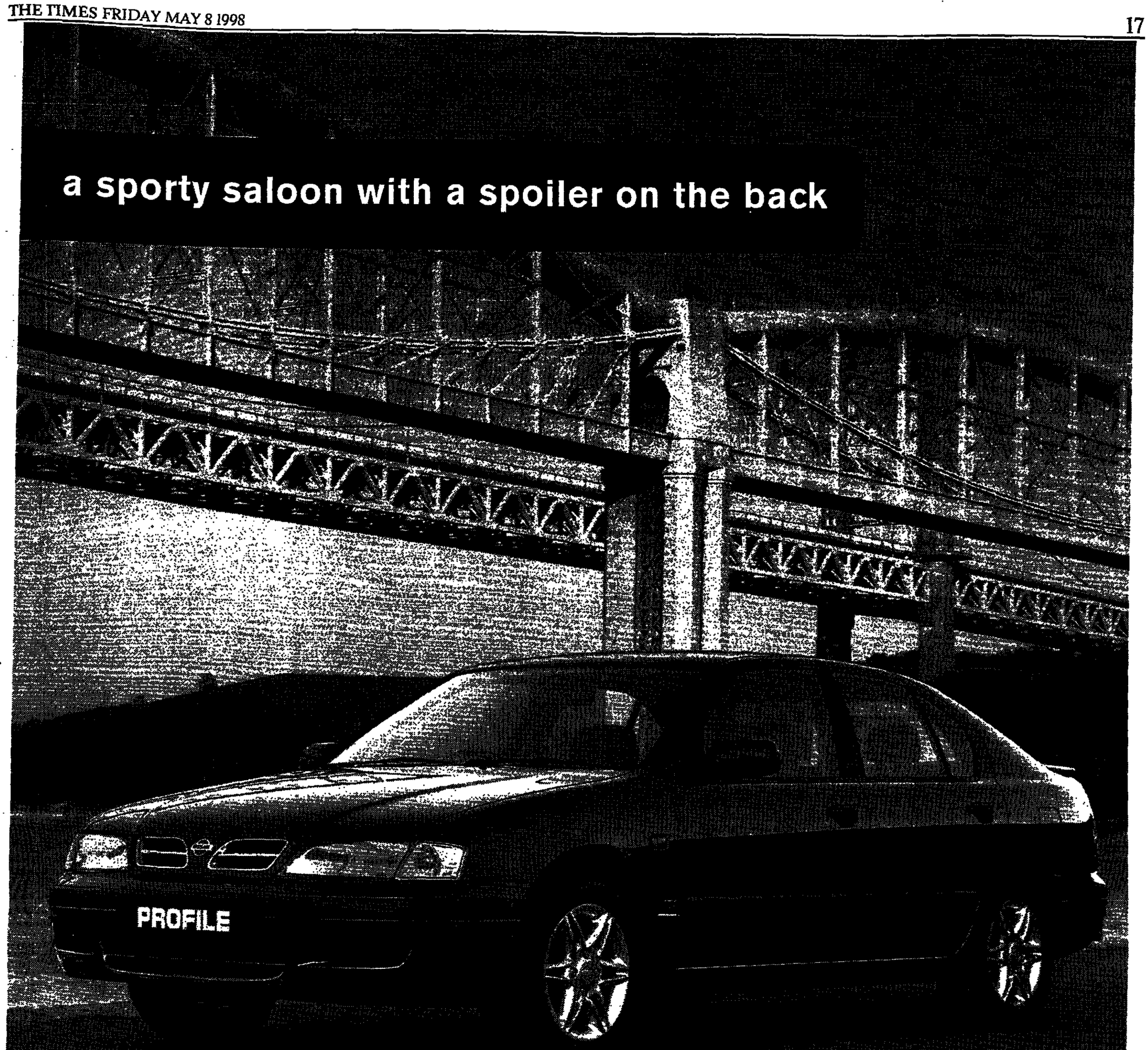
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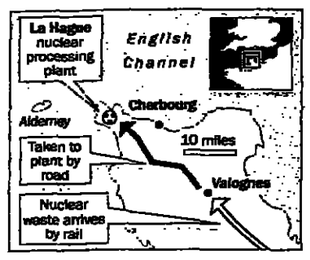
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Paris power chiefs stayed silent over radioactive trains

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS



FRENCH trains transporting nuclear waste across Europe to a reprocessing plant on the Channel coast have been suspended after tests showed them to be contaminated with up to 500 times the normal level of radioactivity.

EDF, the French electricity company responsible for sending the waste, and Cogema, the state nuclear company that runs the reprocessing plant, were both aware that a large percentage of the trains have been contaminated since the early 1990s.

However, according to a report in *Libération*, the left-wing daily, neither company informed the nuclear safety authority, the DSIN, of the contamination, nor did they tell rail employees, who are not issued with protective clothing, of the danger.

The French Government has demanded a full inquiry from nuclear safety regulators by next week. Dominique Voynet, the Environment Minister and head of the Green Party, confirmed that information from the DSIN indicated many containers had been contaminated to levels "that far exceeded norms".

The trains were used to transport irradiated fuel from nuclear reactors in France, Switzerland and Germany to La Hague nuclear reprocessing plant near Cherbourg. Tests conducted at Valognes station, where containers are loaded on to lorries for the 18-mile journey to the plant, showed traces of radioactive cobalt-60 and caesium-137 at well above acceptable levels. One test, carried out on November 27 last year, showed wagons to be contaminated "at a level of several hundred becquerels per sq cm". The normal level is 4 becquerels per sq cm.

SNCF, the state railway company, has requested advice from the DSIN on health risks to staff and members of the public. The company has also ordered medical check-ups for its employees.

While EDF admitted "a lack of rigour" in its approach to the affair, both it and the DSIN insist there is no health risk.

However, reports that wagons were "decontaminated" at Valognes station by wiping with rags, then discarded in small bins in the lorry drivers' cabins as the radioactive waste was transported the last few miles to La Hague, are causing concern. The area around the nuclear reprocessing plant on the Normandy coast was condemned last year by Greenpeace as "a nuclear dustbin".

RICHARD KENDAL / REUTERS



Guildo Horn rehearses in Birmingham for the Eurovision Song Contest. His unconventional act has divided German opinion

Germany tries piece of kitsch to win votes

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

EUROVISION SONG CONTEST

AN AGEING, overweight, greasy-haired former teacher with a mother fixation will represent Germany in the Eurovision Song Contest in Birmingham tomorrow and the country is divided between those who regard the choice as a brilliant post-modernist joke and those who predict an even bigger humiliation than last weekend's European summit.

Guildo Horn, 35 but looking 55, will sing *Piep, Piep, Piep — Guildo Loves You*. That should augur well, striding in the honoured Eurovision tradition of *Oui, Oui, Oui, Oui* (1959), *April, April* (1961), *Boom Bang-A-Bang* (1969), *Hallo, Hallo* (1990), and other echoing titles that seem to suggest that the songwriters are paid by the word. But Guildo does not conform in any other respect to the clean-cut profile of Eurovision contestants.

The scattered judges may fail to pick up the full flavour of Guildo. "I have not washed the shirt I wore when I was selected [three weeks ago] and will wear it in Birmingham — it has the odour of success," he said. Over the shirt he will probably wear his trademark green 1970 corduroy suit, complete with flared trousers. During the performance he will strip and expose a jelly-like hairy torso. He may or may not wear his horn-rimmed glasses.

He might wash his hair or leave it for another week. His backing band, the Orthopaedic Stockings, will stay at home. It looks likely to be another case of "Germany, no points". In 42 years Germany has never received maximum points; its only winner was Nicole in 1982.

The word *kitsch* is of German origin and intellectuals are queuing up to praise Guildo as an ironic statement on the modern world. The logic is simple: the Eurovision Song Contest is acknowledged to be an excruciating celebration of the popular song. Every year critics mock it. Why not field a candidate whose very presence ridicules the other singers and indeed the whole idea that songs can be judged competitively?

The masses are delighted. There is a swelling Guildo movement. His open-air concerts have sometimes drawn 300,000 fans, among whom he scatters his favourite cake, a nutty chocolate pastry.

There are, however, traditionalist opponents to the Guildo cult. *Bild* newspaper found that 62 per cent of the 45,000 callers in a straw poll voted against him representing Germany. Conventional pop song writers tend to agree. "I can only think of using him as a mop for my kitchen floor," said Günter Gabriel.

Guildo began his career as a music teacher for mentally handicapped children. His master's thesis was on the liberating effect of music. In the usual pop magazine interviews he names his favourite plant as "the mould in my fridge" and describes his hair "meat-coloured."

On a recent Mother's Day, he placed his mother on a golden throne in the middle of a concert stage — watched by more than 100,000 fans — and hired an Italian tenor to sing *Mama*. Then he launched into song himself and ripped off his sweat-soaked shirt. His mother came down from her throne to rub down his torso.

Bookmakers quote Guildo as a 20-1 shot for the Eurovision Grand Prize, some way behind the Israeli transvestite Dana. This year's Eurovision contest, one senses, will be rather different from previous years.

☐ Forces' favourite: British forces based in Germany have taken pity on their hosts' dismal Eurovision record and plan to help them to increase their share of the vote tomorrow. Broadcasters serving the British forces are encouraging Britons to swap homes with their German neighbours for the night to get round a rule forbidding participants in a phone-in ballot from voting for their own country's entrant. As forces' homes receive British programming, viewers will see a British phone number allowing them to vote for Guildo. *(Reuters)*

Israel divided over transsexual singer

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

DIVISIONS between Israel's secular and religious Jews are being stirred up in an unlikely way by the decision that Israel be represented by Dana International, a flamboyant transsexual singer, at the Eurovision Song Contest.

Orthodox politicians have reacted furiously to the idea of the Jewish state being represented by someone they label a "deviant" in front of a worldwide television audience. Their secular opponents maintain that the sexuality of the singer of the catchy song *Diva* is irrelevant.

The religious community's anger has been further stoked by reports in the Tel Aviv newspaper *Yediot Aharonot* that Dana has become an icon for the gay community across Europe. "Homosexuals throughout Europe are conducting an unprecedented campaign on Dana's behalf," *Yediot* reported. Victory for Dana, according to the British magazine *Gay Times*, would constitute a recognition of the status of homosexuals.

Leading the religious critics is Shlomo Ben-Izri, a Knesset deputy for the Orthodox Shas party which holds ten seats in the 120-member parliament. "The choice of Dana International is a badge of poverty to the state of Israel and to Hebrew music," he said. "Israeli music has reached an all-time low, so we make use of a gimmick to save it. This hybrid creature, a cross between a man and a woman, is not the kind of produce we need to represent the Chosen People."

Mr Ben-Izri added: "We are meant to be a light unto the nations, not sending out a message of darkness. The whole world will be looking at us and this is what we have to show. Such things were unheard of, even in Sodom."

The busty young singer with a penchant for spectacular costumes said: "What happened to open-mindedness? I am just as much an Israeli and a Jew as they are, and I am simply doing my own thing. I do not need any of the rabbis to tell me that I am acceptable to God. I have my own romance going on with the Lord."

Victorious Kok builds new Dutch coalition

FROM MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

A NEW, "socially more responsible", coalition Government was being pieced together yesterday by Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, after he led the Labour Party to a comfortable victory in the general election.

The left-of-centre party gained eight seats to achieve a total of 45, making it by far the biggest party in the fragmented 150-member parliamentary lower house. The turnout of 73 per cent was a record low.

Mr Kok was preparing the ground for a repetition of Labour's current coalition with the free-market Liberals and centrist D66. But it was unclear whether he would be able to achieve his preferred choice, after voters deserted D66 in droves. The junior coalition party, which wants more direct democracy, lost nearly half its seats, down to 14, after its charismatic leader, Hans van Mierlo, the Foreign Minister, withdrew.

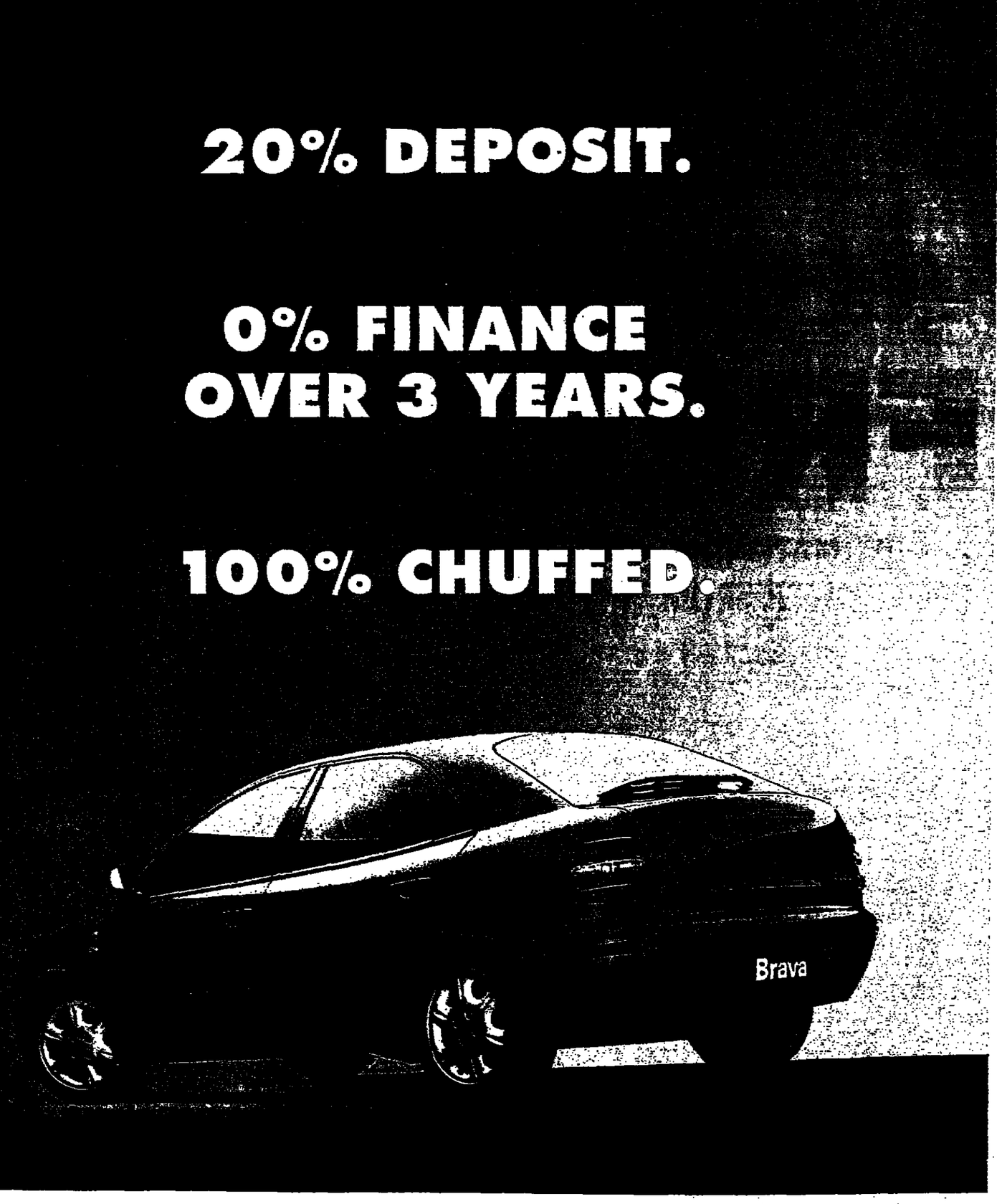


Kok: aims to be "more responsible socially"

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Tree-felling and mafiosi blamed in mud disaster

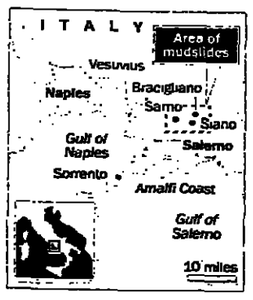
FROM RICHARD OWEN IN SARNO, SOUTHERN ITALY

AS RESCUERS searched for more bodies yesterday in the wake of the huge mudslides in Italy that have killed at least 54 people, the nation began to count the cost of the corruption and mismanagement that critics say lie behind the disaster.

Environmentalists blamed unchecked deforestation, illegal urban sprawl and the pervasive influence of the Camorra, the Naples mafia. Officials put the death toll at 54, with at least 100 others unaccounted for. At least 2,000 people have been made homeless, and are being accommodated in schools and sports centres. The Government declared an emergency in the Campania region, and set aside $30million (£18 million) in immediate aid. The torrential rain, which brought tonnes of mud down the wooded hillsides behind Salerno and Naples on Tuesday and Wednesday, began to ease off yesterday. In the bar on the main square of Sarno, local residents anxiously scanned the weather forecasts as clouds formed over the looming shape of Mt Vesuvius.

> "We held on to each other but it was no use. I wish I'd died with them"

Dazed and angry householders picked their way through the devastation in gumboots or with plastic bags tied round their shoes, as helicopters from the rescue services clattered overhead.



The stench of the mud, *La Repubblica* noted, was matched by the "stench of corruption". The Naples hinterland is a world away from the plush resorts of the Amalfi coast. It is almost a Third World scene rarely visited by outsiders. Much of the housing is illegal, built by families and developers who either ignore planning regulations or bribe the planners. Whole swaths of forest on the craggy hills above have been cut down to make way for the housing which covers much of the area.

Floriano Villa, head of the National Association of Geologists, said there had been "no monitoring whatsoever of the hydrological consequences", and units set up to survey flood and earthquake-risk had been disbanded for lack of funds.

In Sarno, where 18 people died and at least 60 others are still missing, residents speak in awed tones of *Il Fango* — The Mud — as if referring to some unspeakable horror from the abyss.

Gerardo Leone, a businessman from nearby Bracigliano, sobbed as he described how he had lost his wife and three sons in the tragedy. He said a "wall of mud" had overwhelmed their house on the hillside. "We tried to hold on to each other, but it was no use," he said. "I wish I had died with them." The bodies of his wife and children were found several hundred yards from the house.

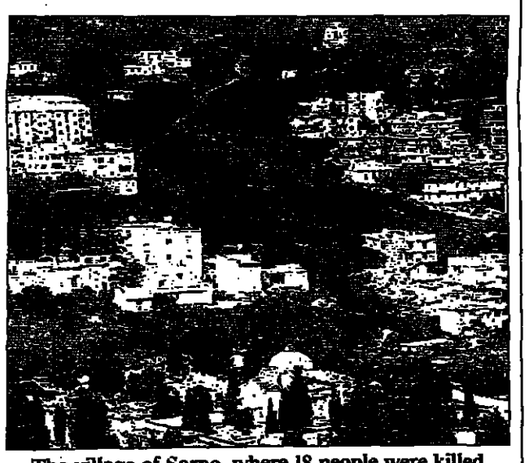
At the Sarno hospital, Michele Sirica, a male nurse, was hailed as a hero for pulling people up to the top storeys of the building as the mud roared past.

Some residents draw a comparison with the fraud and bribery which surrounded the 1980 earthquake at Irpinia, in southern Italy. More than 3,000 people were killed and 200,000 made homeless. Yet although the Government set aside £25 billion in aid over a ten-year period, many of the victims were still living in temporary shelters more than a decade later.

CIRO FUSCO/REUTERS



A woman digs through the remains of her house in Sarno in a desperate effort to find missing members of her family. The death toll rose to 54 yesterday with a further 100 people still unaccounted for. The Government is providing £18 million of aid to the area



The village of Sarno, where 18 people were killed by the wall of mud that swept through the streets

THE TIMES/DILLONS FORUM

An evening with Toni Morrison



TONI MORRISON, the Nobel prize-winning author, will be reading from her long-awaited new novel, *Paradise* (Chatto & Windus £16.99), at a **Times/Dillons Forum** on Monday, May 18. This event, chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, offers readers the rare opportunity to ask Morrison questions about her life and work.

The forum, at 7.30pm at the Institute of Education, 20 Bedford Way, London, WC1, marks the publication of *Paradise*, Morrison's first book for five years. The admission price of £10 (*concessions £7.50 for students, pensioners and the unemployed on production of valid ID*) includes £2 off copies of *Paradise*.

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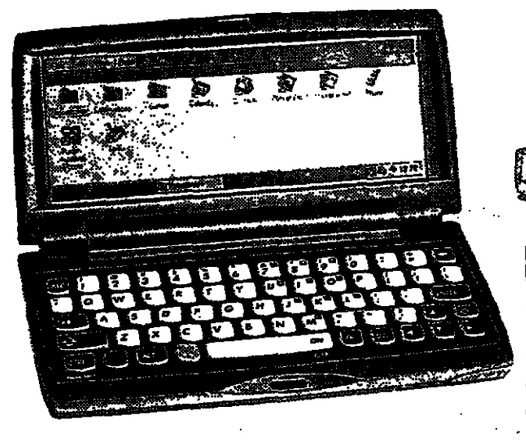
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Congress tells Israel to reject Clinton's pullout plan

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM



THE Middle East peace process was reduced to a domestic political circus in America yesterday as a majority of the House's 435 congressmen signed a letter to the White House saying Israel should not accept the US withdrawal plan, which one member described as "nothing short of extortion".

In a reflection of how far President Clinton has allowed his personal command of the situation to slip, opponents on Capitol Hill led by Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, claimed he was siding with the Palestinians against Israel, one of America's closest allies.

The situation was further compounded by unguarded comments from Hillary Clinton in which she told a youth conference that the eventual creation of a Palestinian state would be in the best interests of the region, a position running entirely counter to official US policy that such a decision be taken by the parties involved.

"It would be in the long-term interests of peace in the Middle East for there to be a state of Palestine, a functioning modern state that is on the same footing as other states," she said.

An embarrassed press secretary immediately issued a statement claiming Mrs Clinton's remarks were solely her own and in no way reflected the position of her husband's Administration.

This failed to quell rising opposition among Republicans to the Clinton Administration's handling of the Middle East. Leading congressmen criticised the "threats" made in inviting Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, to attend a Washington summit next week with Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader.

Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, had issued Mr Netanyahu with an ultimatum in London that he could attend the meeting on Monday only if Israel first agreed to an American proposal that it cede an additional 13.1 per cent of the occupied West Bank to Palestinian control.

"It has become the Clinton Administration and Arafat against Israel," said Mr Gingrich, taking full advantage of the situation to further his own presidential ambitions. "The Clinton Administration says happy birthday, let us blackmail you on behalf of Arafat."

In a terse letter to the White House, Mr Gingrich added: "Israel must be able to decide her own security needs and set her own conditions for negotiations without facing coercion from the US."

America's strong-arm tactics, he said, would send a clear signal to supporters of terrorism that "their murderous actions are an effective tool in forcing concessions from Israel".

Officials in Washington said defensively that Mr Clinton was trying to hasten the process towards final status talks, a movement first advocated by Mr Netanyahu.

Dennis Ross, the President's special envoy to the Middle East, was dispatched again to Jerusalem last night in what officials described as an effort to bridge the remaining gaps needed to begin accelerated talks in Washington.

Yesterday Mr Netanyahu said that Washington's demand that it cede a further 13 per cent of the West Bank breached an agreement signed by Warren Christopher, the former Secretary of State, specifying Israel's right to decide the size of the pullout.

Israel has agreed publicly to hand over a further 9 per cent of the West Bank, while Israeli officials have hinted it might go up to 11 per cent. Aides to Mr Arafat said yesterday they would not attend the Washington meeting for any other purpose but to sign a 13 per cent deal.

Mr Netanyahu is expected to visit the US next week to speak to both the American Jewish Committee and the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, the Jewish lobbies in Washington, as well as making a brief trip to New York. However, David Bar-Illan, his adviser, said he was unlikely to attend the planned Washington summit.

Bidding war for diary of great escape

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A TATTERED journal that tells the tale of an American pilot's audacious escape from his Japanese captors during the Second World War has sparked a bidding battle among leading publishers, with some of the houses brandishing more than $1 million (£600,000) in their attempts to buy the book.

The journal, written by Lieutenant Damon "Rocky" Gause in 1942, was kept hidden for more than 50 years by his widow, who was mortified by his account of a brief affair with a Filipina villager who secreted him from his Japanese pursuers. It has been described as one of the great untold wartime stories from the Pacific arena and likened to a modern version of the *Odyssey*. Several Hollywood producers are said to be interested, and there are rumours that Mel Gibson, the Australian actor, might play the part of Lieutenant Gause.

The airman was killed when his aircraft was shot down over Germany in 1944. His personal effects, including the journal, were sent to his wife in Jefferson, Georgia. She read the story, was disturbed by the parts of it that told of her husband's infidelity, and resolved to keep it under lock and key. Last year, however, she was persuaded by her son Damon Jr to allow him to read the account and to transcribe it on to a computer disk. Later, he convinced her that it was so riveting it should be published.

Lieutenant Gause's journal opens in mid-October 1942, when he strode into the office of General Douglas MacArthur's in Darwin, Australia, and barked: "Reporting from Corregidor, sir," a reference to the tiny Philippine island that had been overrun by the Japanese six months earlier. "Well, I'll be damned," the general responded, in awe of the man who had escaped the massacre of American soldiers and spent 159 days fighting for his life as he bobbed his way to Australia in a tiny boat.

The lieutenant's odyssey began in April 1942 when the US Air Force's 27th Bombardment Group was vanquished by the Japanese at the village of Bataan. He was among the few survivors to be taken prisoner. Some days later, he slit the throat of his guard with the latter's knife and swam three miles of shark-infested sea to Corregidor, then still in Allied hands.

Rejoining American troops there, he was put in charge of a machinegun squad and taken prisoner again when the island fell to the Japanese on May 6. The determined airman, from hardy farming stock, escaped again, stealing a small fishing boat and making for the larger island of Luzon. But his boat was strafed, forcing him to swim to another island, Mindoro. There, in the dense rain forest, he bumped into another American escapee, Captain William Osborne.

The pair concluded that their only chance of survival lay in getting to Australia. They were hidden for several days, and shielded from Japanese patrols, by a local woman with whom Lieutenant Gause had a brief and passionate affair.

She helped the two men to steal a dilapidated 20ft sailing boat equipped with an unreliable diesel engine. They set off for Australia, but not before breaking into a Japanese-occupied lighthouse off Mindoro, from which they stole supplies of fuel. Only a few days later, however, the engine broke down near the island of Busuanga, then a leper colony. With astonishing luck, however, one of the island's lepers was a former marine engineer and he repaired the engine for them.

With the boat seaworthy again, they set off once more, surviving the attentions of Japanese aircraft through a combination of outrageous good fortune and monumental *chutzpah*. On numerous occasions, for example, they waved a stolen Japanese flag when they saw a fighter in the distance, thus warding off a probable attack.

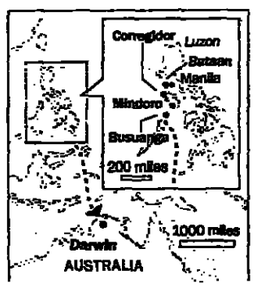
On one occasion however, they blundered, waving their American flag at a plane they believed to be Allied. It was Japanese. They were strafed and their boat caught fire. Miraculously, they survived, and were able to patch their craft together again. Relying solely on their ravaged sail, they finally reached Australia.

Mary Tahan, the literary agent who is handling the journal's sale, said: "You couldn't make a story up this good. It has everything." Rick Wolff, the editor of Warner Books, which is expected to bid enthusiastically for publishing rights, remarked: "You read this journal and keep saying to yourself, 'This couldn't have happened.' But it did."



SUTCLIFFE NEWS AND FEATURES

Lieutenant Gause's description of his audacious escape from Japanese captors, described as a modern-day *Odyssey*, was kept hidden by his widow for 50 years



Army in tribute to John Wayne

Washington: In a tribute to the American legend of *True Grit*, the US Army is to name one of its latest helicopters after John Wayne, the actor who still inspires legions of servicemen (Tom Rhodes writes). A day in honour of the late film star next week will conclude with a ceremony to dedicate the *Duke*, an informal name for the second prototype of the Comanche RAH66 stealth reconnaissance helicopter.

Heiress denies killing her lover

BY TOM RHODES

AN HEIRESS has claimed that she killed an Argentine polo player because he wanted to take her life.

Susan Cummings, daughter of a billionaire arms dealer who died ten days ago in Monaco, says she shot Roberto Villegas, 38, at her Virginia estate when he attacked her with a knife. She claims he was an abusive brute who once put a noose around her neck, had assaulted former girlfriends and threatened men with knives.

But prosecutors yesterday said that Ms Cummings, 35, had deliberately shot Villegas four times last September in a fit of jealousy over an 18-month romance that had turned sour. Police found him lying face down in a pool of blood with wounds to the arm, chest and neck from a Walther pistol.

Eric Junger, an investigator, testified that police found an empty holster and open box of ammunition — with eight bullets missing — in her bedroom cupboard.

"The evidence will show," said Kevin Casey, an attorney-general for Fauquier County, that the victim "was sitting at the kitchen table, apparently eating breakfast".

The coroner had found croissant crumbs in the dead man's mouth and prosecutors allege that Ms Cummings cut her own arm and planted a knife near the body.

Blair Howard, for the defence, has told of a shy girl's doomed romance with a dangerous man. "I treat my women and my horses in the same way," the lawyer quoted him as saying. "If I can't break them, I kill them."

Ms Cummings, whose father, Samuel, was a former CIA employee who became one of the world's top arms dealers, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder and unlawful use of a firearm.







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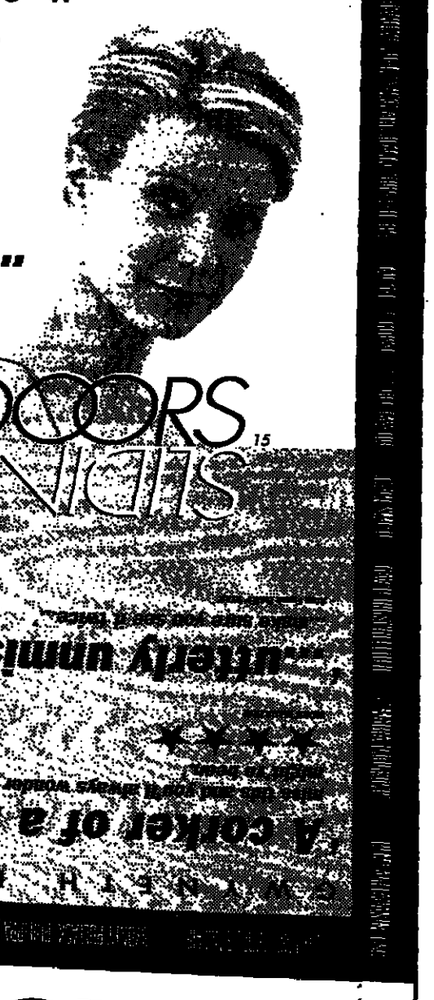
...a charming romantic comedy'

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Film star heads for lead role in Manila

FROM DAVID WATTS IN MANILA

FOR 35 years, Joseph Estrada was a successful film actor playing the oppressed "little man" fighting against the establishment.

Now the real-life establishment is horrified to find that he is heading for victory in the Philippines presidential elections and is likely to bring a string of fellow movie stars and basketball players into regional politics with him.

The millions that have watched him on screen are backing him to take the country into a new era in which showbusiness and politics are promising to become indistinguishable.

Mr Estrada is now so confident of victory on Monday, with the polls showing him 18 per cent clear of his nearest rival, that he has cancelled his last campaign rally and is planning a thanksgiving Mass instead.

"I can communicate easily with the masses because they believe in me," he said. "Like President Reagan, maybe experience as a movie actor helps. In the election rallies I can get hold of the people, I can get the feel of the people."

At 61, he has the bluff charm of the former President and occasionally shows flashes of the kind of determination that may just surprise his legions of detractors if he wins.

The jawline may not be as firm as it used to be, but the "bandido" moustache, three admitted mistresses and a possible fourth all seem to help his image, as do his legendary drinking capacity and the relaxing weekends with a bevy of Filipina beauties. Filipinos joke that while Bill Clinton has the scandals, Mr Estrada has the sex. He certainly seems to embody the Philippines' plunge from 300 austere years as a Spanish colony into the glitz of modern American culture.

No one thought Mr Estrada's political career would go any further than his five years as Vice-President. However, President Ramos's schemes to have himself succeeded by another former commander-in-chief of the army have come to nothing and his second choice, José de Venecia, the House Speaker, has not been popular with the public.

Plans to stop Mr Estrada, seen by many as a buffoon, have been hatched. In an attempt to discredit him he has even been accused of plotting the murder of the President. The Catholic hierarchy is saying his appointment would be a national disaster. Last weekend Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Archbishop of Manila, issued a pastoral letter calling on Filipinos not to support Mr Estrada, but one of the leading charismatic Christian groups is backing Erap — a play on the Tagalog word for buddy — as Mr Estrada is nicknamed.

His critics say he is a throwback with no realistic policies, who will bring back the political ethos of the Marcos era. One Manila daily has published a series of articles on gangsters they allege are associated with Mr Estrada, including drug-dealers. All this Mr Estrada dismisses, focusing his attention on the judiciary, described by him as "hoodlums in robes".

Mr Estrada not only promises to right the wrongs of the poor with billions of pesos wasted in corruption, but he promises to crack down on police corruption and jail sleazy politicians — including Imelda Marcos — without fear or favour: "Under this administration, corrupt politicians are investigated and asked to resign. Under my administration they will be investigated and face the full force of the law. They will go straight to jail, whoever they are."

Mrs Marcos has hundreds of cases pending against her. She has been convicted of two offences that are now under appeal. But with the combination of Catholicism and the Filipino capacity to forgive and forget, no one will be surprised if Erap quietly lets Mrs Marcos off the hook — and blames the judiciary.

ROMEO GACAD / EPA



Joseph Estrada, left, the former actor and front-runner for the presidency, with José de Venecia, President Ramos's preferred successor

Invitation by British angers Beijing

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING

CHINA yesterday strongly attacked what it said was British interference in its internal affairs after the Consul-General's office in Hong Kong invited candidates in forthcoming elections to meet British diplomats.

Zhu Bangzao, the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, said the action constituted "direct interference" in Hong Kong's affairs and was a violation of Sino-Chinese agreements on the territory, now a special administrative region of China.

In what was seen as one of the strongest denunciations of Britain since the handover on June 30 last year, Mr Zhu said he hoped that London would "immediately stop this practice of interfering in China's internal affairs so as to facilitate the healthy development of bilateral relations".

Trevor Adams, spokesman for the Consul-General's office, said that candidates were being invited for discussion but denied that London was interfering in the election. "We are merely informing ourselves about it," he said. "We are just going to listen to what they have to say."

Bishop commits suicide over 'Muslim injustice'

FROM ZAHID HUSSAIN IN ISLAMABAD

A ROMAN CATHOLIC bishop has shot himself dead in Pakistan's eastern province of Punjab in protest at a court verdict which sentenced to death a Christian on charges of blasphemy against the Prophet Muhammad.

Bishop John Joseph of Faisalabad, a human rights activist, shot himself in the head yesterday in a court in the city of Sahiwal, which gave the death penalty to Ayub Massih, a Christian peasant, on April 27.

The bishop, 66, was reportedly distraught by Massih's conviction on what he believed were false charges.

"He sacrificed his life to draw the world's attention to the injustice done to an innocent man," said Father Emmanuel Yousuf Mani, a bishop of Lahore.

Massih was accused of making a reference to Salman Rushdie, the British author who is the subject of a religious decree by Iranian leaders calling for his death for his alleged comments against the Prophet Muhammad in his book, *The Satanic Verses*.

Massih was arrested in October 1996 at his village, Arifabad, on a complaint filed by a Muslim man who alleged that he heard Massih saying: "If we want to know the truth about Islam, then read Salman Rushdie." He was promptly jailed.

Human rights organisations said that charges were fabricated and made vindictively to force 15 Christian families to drop a local land dispute in Massih's village.

A judge, Rana Abdul Ghaffar, imposed the death penalty on Massih under blasphemy law following a closed prison trial in which he was not allowed to defend himself. The trial was shifted to the jail after Massih was attacked by religious zealots in the courtroom. He is in jail pending an appeal.

The controversial blasphemy law imposed by the late military dictator, General Zia ul-Haq, requires a mandatory death penalty for anyone who is accused of denigrating the name of the Prophet by words, either written or spoken, or by insinuation. The vague law, which has been criticised by human rights activists, has largely been misused by religious extremists to persecute religious minorities, particularly Christians.

Christians, a small minority in a predominantly Muslim nation, have become the target of Islamic extremists. Several have been given the death sentence on blasphemy charges by lower courts in the past few years. But the rulings were overturned by the high court. Most such cases emanate from feuds over property.



THE TIMES

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Summer's costume drama



HOT TIP

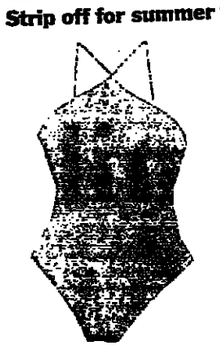
For swimmers who go through the summer smelling of chlorinated pool water, there is a solution - a hair perfume that conditions and adds shine. Packaged in Issey Miyake's trademark frosted glass cone, the bottle is 100 per cent shock-proof. L'Eau d'Issey Perfumed Hair Shine Spray costs £18. (01372-468 222)



IMAGES

SIX OF THE BEST

Strip off for summer with six great swimsuits



RED HALTER-NECK SWIMSUIT, £89
This take on the Charlie's Angels Seventies swimsuit in Baywatch red is a real hit. Halter-neck straps make a change but don't give much support.
Nicole Farhi, 158 New Bond Street. (0171-499 8368)
8/10



CAMEL SUEDETTE SWIMSUIT, £49.99
Beading on the straps gives this soft and sexy swimsuit an ethnic feel. The cup shape makes it best for smaller sizes. Also available in turquoise.
Morgan, 393 Oxford Street W1. (0171-383 2886)
9/10



METALLIC GREY SWIMSUIT, £18
Combine the colour of pure molten metal with a high-cut leg and you have a very sexy swimsuit. Thick straps help with support.
Warehouse, 96 Kings Road SW3. (0171-278 3491)
10/10



LILAC SWIMSUIT, £15
Available in pink, green and lilac, this sports swimsuit is made from super-thick Lycra with a supportive lining: it comes right up to the neck with a cut-out back.
Tesco branches nationwide (0800-505 555)
9/10

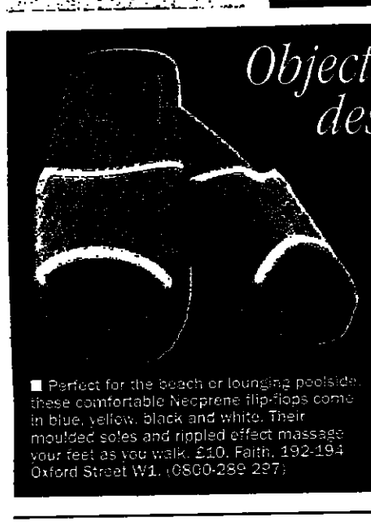


WHITE CROCHET SWIMSUIT, £26
This looks delicate but a white lining makes it quite discreet. Pretty but not too fussy.
M&S at selected branches (0171-935 4422)
10/10



BLACK AND WHITE CHEVRON SWIMSUIT, £22.99
Chevron stripes elongate the body and give the illusion of a smaller waist - as well as enhancing a flat chest.
Next and Next Directory (0345-100 500)
10/10

COMPILED BY DEBORAH BRETT



Objects of desire

■ Perfect for the beach or lounging poolside, these comfortable Neoprene flip-flops come in blue, yellow, black and white. Their moulded soles and rippled effect massage your feet as you walk. £10. Faith, 192-194 Oxford Street W1. (0800-289 297)



■ Show off on the beach this summer with a Ralph Lauren Polo Sport towel. The teddies on these towels have outfits to match activities from basketball to working out and playing polo - a bear necessity for every sporty poseur. £25 from Ralph Lauren Home Collection at Harrods. (0171-730 1234)

CUTTING EDGE

JANE SHILLING

Buying a new bathing costume is, somehow, not quite as much fun as one feels it ought to be. There are a couple of reasons for this. The first is that on the high street, at least, the proportion of pretty, wearable, well designed garments to real stinkers is unreasonably low. And then there is the swimsuit's lack of hanger appeal — impossible mentally to translate that snake's honeymoon of straps and cups and halter ties and complicated gussetry into something that might be flattering if one actually got inside it.

It is a task that I have been putting off for years. The sort of beaches I frequent — stony, stormy, big on rock pools and jellyfish — demand the sartorial style of David Hempleman-Adams. I do have a bathing suit, which I wear under my multiple fisherman's knits, on the off-chance that the sun might come out. I bought it ten years ago from Jasper Conran. It has a high neck and a frilly skirt, presumably to ward off gusts of wind at thigh level. I love it dearly, but the elastic around the leg holes has gone all limp, and I can see that I must get another.

So off I go to Harvey Nichols, to get my eye in among the designer swimwear. There, for upwards of a hundred pounds, are zigzag stripes from Missoni, sporty white piqué from Polo Ralph Lauren, muted two-tone turquoise from Calvin Klein, broderie anglaise and devoré velvet from La Perla, and a hilarious one-piece by Moschino, screen-printed with a pattern of pebbles so eerily lifelike that if you wore it down to the beach and lay very still, your chances of being stepped on by a handsome German out to bag the best sun-lounger would be very good indeed. If I'd had £105 to spare, I would certainly have bought it.

I was actually planning to spend about one fifth of that sum, however. So it's hey-ho for the high street where, amid the flotsam and jetsam of Valkyrie-busted floral horrors, some treasures are to be found.

At Marks & Spencer, there are bikinis and one-pieces in a pretty, broderie anglaise-style synthetic in white, mauve or black, £24, and a stunningly glam sapphire blue devoré velvet one-piece, £24. It also has a snappy pinstriped bikini with a triangle top, £8, and chic little shorts, £10. If you like Ralph Lauren's piqué, you should check out H&N's white piqué sports bikini, £14.99, which has a matching tennis skirt, £14.99. H&N also has a striking and unusual leaf-print bandeau-top bikini, £9.99.

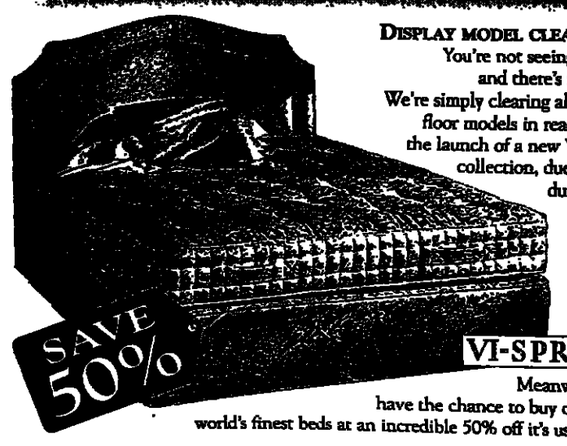
Increasingly, the chains are realising that women expect their bathing costumes to do more than just lie around on the beach. If something cannot be transformed into a body for wearing under a skirt or shorts, or a top smart enough to wear to a restaurant in the evening, then it doesn't earn a place in the suitcase. What looks like a rather uninspired collection at Bhs actually repays a second look. The high-waisted, high-cut bikini bottoms, £10, and matching crop top, £10, are cleverly cut to seem more revealing than they are. Some of the colours are not good — a harsh blue and a cruel mauve — but in lime green or black, the two-piece works beautifully as an ensemble with a brilliant green hooded velours cover-up, £22, minimalist grosgrain thong sandals, £15, and a woven straw bag, £10.

At Next, a cotton and Lycra one-piece, or halter-neck bikini, £22.99, multi-striped *à la* Clemens Ribeiro in gold, pink, turquoise, white, chocolate, shell and sage is pretty, comfortable and, with a matching cotton voile sarong, £14.99, a turquoise hooded top, £19.99, and a turquoise mesh duffel bag, £14.99, cool and chic enough for a restaurant or a shopping expedition. If you are bored with restrained good taste, Miss Selfridge has clear blue PVC flip-flops with a daisy trim, £8, and a brilliantly tacky clear plastic bag with a fish, swimming in a sea of blue liquid, trapped in one side. It also has a witty bikini in a bright blue swimming-pool print that is pure David Hockney. At Warehouse, a black bikini top and briefs fringed with jet beading are *haute vaudeville*. Its bandeau-top bikinis in ice blue, mauve, white or dull silver, with matching shorts or sarongs, are classically elegant — though if your bosom is the sort with a life of its own, you'd probably better stick to the stoutly restraining vaudeville fringing.

PS: A gremlin in last week's column rendered "ballet shoes" as "Bally shoes". The former are available from Bruno Magli's rebuilding sale in Sloane Street, SW3. The latter are not.



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Regal Supreme 6'0" x 6'6" zip/link divan set soft/firm mattresses	£3800	£1900
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MAN ON TOP

JOE JOSEPH

What must really hack the Ancient Greeks off as they stare down at us from Olympus, is that they were smart enough to make giant strides in philosophy and in inventing rotating vertical spits for making doner kebabs (although hot sauce came much later, of course), but somehow it never once occurred to Aristotle to blindfold an adult human being and get him to direct a "Golden Shot" crossbow towards a target with the aim of shooting a bolt through an apple, while Bob Monkhouse gulped so nervously you'd think a nuclear warhead was being fired at Moscow.

It is a symbol of our progress: today, game shows are a key part of our cultural landscape, offering, as they do, a unique way of combining the thrill of winning piles of money with the thrill of being recognised by millions of strangers on the way to work as the very same man they saw on television the previous night making a complete dork of himself.

I once approached a game-show producer with a cracking idea. It involved six nuns standing in a row, while rival teams of politicians, positioned a few yards away, tried to land quoits on their wimples. Occasionally, a wimple would start flashing like a Belisha beacon when one of Parliament's more skilled quoit-throwers, such as Frank Dobson, had managed to ring the "Wonder Wimple Of the Week" — signifying that the MP had located not a real nun but a disguised nun strippagram. The lucky MP and strippagram would then go on a date, returning the following week to show us the video diary of their time together: the working title for the series was *Kiss 'Em Once, Kiss 'Em Twice, But Don't Get into the Habit.* The producer told me that he needed to think about it.

But now that ITV is canvassing ideas for the new game show it is launching with a £1 million prize, I have donned my inventor's cap once again to devise some innovative formats that embrace the true game-show spirit of "If at first you don't succeed, then try, try again, because you're obviously not behaving like a big enough jerk yet". I will send the following proposals to the first TV producer who can name a coffee-producing country that begins with "K", while peeling a grapefruit blindfolded. Your time starts now.

The Clinton Quiz: an upmarket weekly quiz in which contestants — many of them professors of international affairs from Oxford and Princeton — will answer topical questions about American politics. Example: why was Clinton so pleased when he heard that a Swiss company had formulated a a way of making 100 per cent-safe breast implants made not from silicone but from vegetable oil? Was it because a) he thought it would end health worries for thousands of flat-chested women: b) it would help American farmers who produce corn and soybeans for vegetable oil: or c) he could not imagine anything more seductive than a woman with large breasts who smells of French fries?

Spin the Spiel: a knockout competition in which political spin-doctors from each of the main parties are presented with crises implicating their party leaders in a political, financial or sexual scandal and have to invent increasingly shameless lies to get their leader off the hook. The first to blush is eliminated from the game. Bonus marks if the spinner can lie in a way that plunges a rival's leader deeper into the scandal. Double bonus marks if they can manage, in passing, gratuitously to humiliate Robin Cook even more than he already humiliates himself.

Fergie's Follies: contestants are read a series of cringe-inducing statements made by guests on British or American chat shows and must guess which of them was made by the Duchess of York. Contestants must overcome their temptation to say "all" because, crass as the remarks sound, they will not all have been made by Fergie. Some might have been made by Jack Straw.

Punting with the Professionals: this brings some sanity back into the quiz show. What's the point of asking an architect questions on astronomy when he has a whole subject he knows much more about? So, in this show, professionals will be quizzed on their own specialities. This will be a winning formula for audiences, too, since most of us are less interested in hearing that our doctor knows which play Shakespeare wrote first than in being sure he knows the difference between heartburn and a hernia. Thus, newsreaders will be asked to devise a news item of startling inanity that could still justify being read out in the "And finally" section of a news bulletin: chefs will have to try to think of a vegetable or herb that has not yet been turned into a pesto mash; Euro MPs will be given everyday items (wash taps, bananas, scissors) for which they will have to draft three zany but still credible pieces of Brussels bureaucracy, and so on. Contestants will be asked ten questions each, except for lawyers, who will answer only four, because in law it pays to specialise. Scores are totted up at the end of the show, after which the contestant who is the accountant will reveal that — after deductions and expenses — nobody made as much as they thought they had, anyway.

'A woman counting her gold'

GUILTY

Major and Thatcher drove John Redwood to distraction, **Hywel Williams** reveals in the final extract from his book



TOM STODDART

Margaret Thatcher, who, according to John Redwood, asked of William Hague after seeing him: "Is he right-wing?"

What kind of man was John Major, whose personality became so indelibly stamped on his party and on the Government he led?

The Prime Minister's upper-artisan, lower-bourgeois background shared the same social geography as John Redwood's. Both men shared a resentful fastidiousness about their backgrounds. Major came to build Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, into an essential feature of his prime ministership. Redwood would wince with an almost physical pain when reading or listening to Major's speeches on the subject.

Major's concern with his appearance amounted to an obsession remarkable even in the age of media politics. Locked away with a make-up girl for an inordinate amount of time before he was ready to face the cameras, he would pay special attention to his hair, lovingly combing every greying strand into place before the final application of spray.

Once physically prepared to face the cameras, he would rehearse his lines, and often took the trouble to write them down on a sheet of paper which would then go into his breast pocket. After the interview he would check with his aides whether he had said what he intended.

Major's political gifts could be seen at their best when he visited hospitals and schools. He might have been "extraordinary in his ordinariness", as Redwood once summed him up, but no Conservative politician was better at the political art of the handshake, the gesture, the direct look in the eye solicitous of friendship and support.

Major had decided that the press was his greatest problem. Away from London, when a difficult political story was breaking, he would have the first editions of the London papers delivered to him before going to bed. The following morning he would be busy devouring the latest editions of the same papers. He was the textual scholar of the political story, adept at discovering its source among leaky Cabinet colleagues on the basis of the internal evidence, and assiduous in recording different nuances of treatment as the story appeared in different papers and successive editions. The self-consciously important intervention of the press office became a customary sight at official dinners. A breathless report of the 10pm news headlines would be intoned into the prime ministerial ear.

On political tours, Redwood failed to massage the Prime Minister's almost feminine and fragile sense of his identity. The two were thrown together, for example, while campaigning during the 1994 elections to the European Parliament. Major arrived for a private lunch on Deeside attended by Redwood and the inevitable local businessmen. As so often, Major was in a state about the day's newspapers, and especially about *The Daily Telegraph*. "I can tell you that there are at least five political stories in that paper today which have not a shred of truth."

In October 1994, Major joined us again for a two-day tour of South Wales. Redwood was bursting to be asked about the latest economic developments and their impact on the political scene, but the Prime Minister refused to play ball. He was happiest chatting about the weather, cricket and his travel arrangements over the next few days — once the ritual lament over rebellious MPs was over. "It won't be Mr Nice Guy from now on. Oh no."

As an increasingly febrile Redwood sat opposite Major on the Cardiff train, the tension between them rose. As the train approached the station, conversation centred on whether he was wearing the right tie, and whether the knot was correctly tied, with his PPS on hand to complete the final arranging of the trousseau.

Redwood's contempt for this kind of anxiety was uncontainable. "Why should I need notes in a television studio?" he once said savagely to a startled interviewer. "People might think that I don't know my own mind." At the end of Major's two days, the Prime Minister and Redwood did a joint television interview. "Did you see how embarrassing it was?" Redwood said afterwards. "I had to take over and do most of the talking."

Redwood's relations with Margaret Thatcher had always been cool, and his credentials to be considered a Thatcherite *avant la lettre* were considerable. Privatisation was the undoubted success story of Thatcher's premiership, and it had been Redwood's campaign since the late 1970s. It was not until after the great and unexpected victory of 1983 that she was persuaded, and only then with great difficulty, that privatisation could succeed. Redwood's view of Thatcher was that she always depended on advice and was always good at choosing it. She had served in the Cabinet of Edward Heath, the Tories' most *étatiste* Prime Minister, but she was a brilliantly opportunistic politician in a well-established Tory tradition. She recognised the political opportunities of the late 1970s and adapted and created her own fifth gospel whose holy writ came to be seen as her own. If the authorised version allowed only one mention of John Redwood in her memoirs, perhaps that is the price advisers invariably pay in the courts of the mighty.

Redwood's refusal to play the role of courtier, like Kenneth Clarke's, though for different reasons, eventually cost them both dear when Thatcher intervened against them before the third ballot in the June 1997 leadership election. But the coldness was of long standing. Between 1993 and 1995, when he was in Cabinet, Redwood had seen her as a destabilising threat and ignored her. In 1995 she refused to support him in the first leadership contest. Between 1995 and 1997, he would visit her office two or three times a year and return with tales of a woman counting her gold and reliving her past. He maintained that "the whole Thatcher thing is dead, it's over and done with".

In the 1997 leadership election he phoned her to protest, having read in the press that she had seen William Hague the previous day and that the Hague circle was claiming that this represented a formal anointing. She replied plaintively: "Oh, but they're all coming to see me. Do you want to come?" Taking the view that he had been a courtier long enough, Redwood rebuffed her, explaining that he had campaigning duties with sitting members of the House of Commons. An admiring circle cheered him as he stood addressing the receiver. Icy premonitions now formed in my gut. "Now, William Hague", she said brightly, "is he right-wing?" Obviously the previous day's interview had left no very profound impression.

In some detail, Redwood went through Hague's record of appeasing quangos in Wales and displacement of his own regimen of thorough administration. In terms reminiscent of the younger Thatcher in full, premeditated flow, he went on to expatiate on Lilley's transgressions, Howard's evasiveness and his own claim to be her only-begotten political successor. He was always braver at the end of a telephone line. It was the last time they spoke to each other during the campaign, and in giving full rein to his long-contained resentment he had set in motion a series of events whose consequences would be profound both for himself and for his party.

● *Extracted from* Guilty Men *by Hywel Williams, £19.95, published by Aurum Press on May 18. Times readers can buy the book for £17.95 by calling* The Times *bookshop on 0990 134459*

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Blair stands for nothing, fortunately

A leader without ideology can be a blessing, says **John Lloyd**

The incomparable Goons, justly beloved of the Prince of Wales, had a little routine in which Spike Milligan played *God Save the Queen* on the comb and paper. After a few seconds of the national anthem thus rendered, Harry Secombe said: "If they'll stand for that, they'll stand for anything."

This was a little shocking in the late Fifties. There were lots of institutions which stood for something. Politicians stood for large and heavy institutions such as the Crown or the Union, or the working class. Clowns such as Milligan, or subversives such as Jimmy Porter (of *Look Back in Anger*) poked fun or scorn but the heavy institutions stayed, fading only slowly. Yet they did fade. They faded until, at the end of the millennium, we have elected a party whose leader will stand for anything. And very welcome it is.

That he would stand for anything or nothing is what some Tories still say of Tony Blair. Kenneth Clarke tried out this line a good deal before the last election, in part to disguise how much he believed in the same things as new Labour did. He and others meant by this to suggest that Blair was an opportunist, a man for any soundbite which would command attention and any compromise which would secure votes.

In that banal sense they were wrong — or, where right, no more or less so than about any other political figure. But in a deeper sense (which they did not mean), they were right.

Blair is the first wholly Post-Modern party leader. That is, he brings to his tasks no coherent "ism" of any kind, save "newness" or modernity defined as efficiency, common sense and goodwill. This elusive, lightness-of-being quality has been much marked in various ways in the "one year on" evocations of the past two weeks; but it is even more marked in the greatest triumph of the first year of his leadership.

The settlement he achieved in Northern Ireland may not last; but that he achieved it at all is due only in part to his strong majority. More importantly, he had put himself in a space which was neither wholly Unionist nor (as Labour leaders were supposed to be) gradualist-nationalist. He stood for nothing in a context in which everyone *must* stand for something — nothing, that is, except a common sense which could see what the settlement had to be.

When, nearly a year ago, he made a speech in Belfast which was widely seen as supportive of the Union, it was not the speech of a Unionist but of one who thought the Union was obviously right for the foreseeable future because more people in Northern Ireland wanted it than did not. It was a speech for Union conditional on popular will, not for a Unionism sanctioned by tradition or by the Crown.

We were reminded many times, in the anniversary assessments, of the apparent paradox that the constitutional changes make up his most radical reforms to date and are, at the same time, least his own — having been a commitment inherited from his predecessor, John Smith. Smith had become convinced that devolution was a principled necessity; Blair saw it as something of a diversion. Yet he is presiding over a series of constitutional changes which are ushering in a profound transformation of the British State — a transformation marked by another milestone yesterday in which Londoners voted for a mayor who will command the largest direct electorate of the Western world.

A mayor of London will (if the post is filled by someone of political savvy and histrionic ability) command a position which will be in competition with Downing Street for the available limelight.

Any previous leader who stood for the unchallengeable primacy which the office of British Prime Minister confers on its occupant would have shied from the implications of this casual-seeming tossing away of power. But Blair does not stand for the untrammelled primacy of his office either, because common sense tells him that mayors may be able to revive the structures of local government and that he must live with the competition.

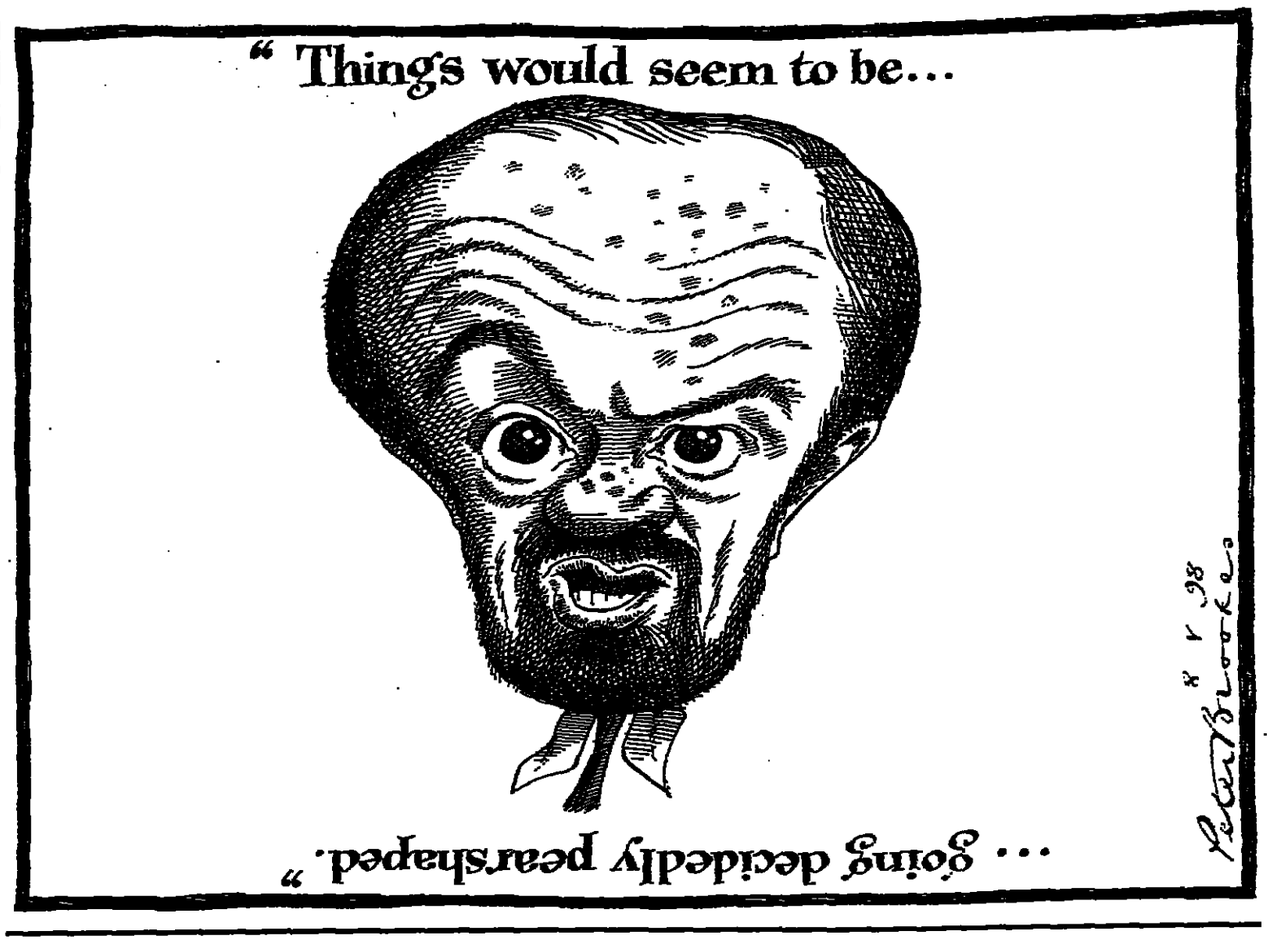
He does not, of course, stand for socialism, nor even for the Labour Party; he would happily see it merged, or working in close and continual alliance with, the Liberal Democrats. He does not stand for the nation against Europe, as three successive Tory leaders (with varying degrees of conviction) have done; but nor does he stand for Europe against the nation, as Helmut Kohl and Romano Prodi do.

He does not stand for a more equal society, but he certainly does not stand for a more sharply divided one. He holds his religion more seriously than any other Prime Minister since the war — but when the redoubtable Cardinal Manning of Glasgow confronted him last year with the demand that he turn his religious objection to abortion into policy, he met the polite refusal of a politican who does not stand for importing religious belief into policy in any but the most abstract way.

If one does not stand for policies in the old sense — the sense that some ism has brought you into politics for its achievement — then you are free and can set others free. So long as you are decent and make a principle of honesty and transparency with some hope of keeping to it, then the isms of this dying century can go to the hells they have created. If our times darken and there are fundamental threats to our settled and comfortable way of life, then principles will have to be enunciated and held.

In these merry, piping times of peace, a Prime Minister who stands for nothing is the best leader to have — for then, as the old Chinese saying has it, the people think they are doing everything for themselves. And they will be at least partly right, for that is the way the times must move, and isms would stop it.

The author is associate editor of the New Statesman.



Poison on every page

Hywel Williams's savage political memoir is sparkling but deeply flawed

Matthew Parris

The first thing that strikes you is the anger and in the end it is the only thing that strikes you. The sheer loathing, the hatreds and jealousies, the gnawing, corroding, intoxicating, vision-clouding, reason-blocking, dizzying, debilitating, mind-wearying, stupefying and finally exhausting anger begins seeping into the text of *Guilty Men* at the book's beginning, floods through its pages as the story continues, saturates the text, drowns the argument and leaves Hywel Williams's readers with only one wretched conclusion: the Tory Right have gone plumb crazy. This is a mad, mad book. It is also rather brilliantly written. And it is profoundly wrong.

Times readers who have seen the extracts reproduced in our paper may suppose a canny editor has selected the juicy bits and shown them the best (or worst) of this poison. They would be woefully mistaken. It is poison, poison, poison, all the way. And, as so often happens when a disturbed witness is encouraged to relate his case at length, the audience soon ceases following the narrative and becomes absorbed instead by the narrator. This man is unwittingly telling us much more about the mind-games he and his cronies played than about the objects of his hatred.

Principal among these is John Major. You know at once, if you did not already suspect, that Williams is out to get Major by the subtitle of his book: *Conservative Decline and Fall, 1992-97*. The story starts as the unlucky Major holds the baton. No picture is offered of the moment before. So let me offer a snapshot of the scene Margaret Thatcher quit . . .

Inflation was more than 10 per cent; unemployment was climbing; interest rates were 14 per cent and the economy was heading towards recession. Rock-solid seats were being lost in by-elections. On Europe, the Cabinet was all over the place and the party was troubled. Riots and civil disobedience had engulfed a hated new system of local taxation; the Government was hopelessly behind in opinion polls and its leader among the most disliked in this century. Few doubted that the Conservatives were heading for the buffers.

So much of this dispiriting picture seems to have been forgotten in accounts offered by the Right. Instead we are invited to believe that, in a moment of folly, a party with everything to play for ejected a popular leader at the height of her powers. The truth, of course, was different. In the last days of Margaret Thatcher's empire, Tories felt they had nothing to lose. No account which starts from anything but a recognition of the despair which gripped the party before the *start* of John Major's leadership can hope to illuminate. Williams is not uncritical of Thatcher but, consumed by a passion to blacken Major's name, he never properly acknowledges the sick party that Major inherited.

The extent of that sickness is well displayed in Williams's own psychopathology. This is a man touched by genius. His writing is more than clever: it is wild. It displays an intuitive brilliance rare — almost unknown — among political hacks. I would compare his mad insights, if not with Nietzsche's, then with those of the socialist psychobiographer Leo Abse, who argues that Tony Blair is androgynous. But, as is often the case with the super-sensitive, Williams displays signs of incipient paranoia, his horror/contempt having fixed itself upon the apparently mild personage of John Major.

There is no logic in the account. Major is described variously as a ruthless, scheming and devastatingly effective controller of events — and as a pathetic, petulant wimp. At one point Williams accuses him of planning from the start his party's ruin and "stoking the fires of faction". Those of us who watched as Major tried with desperation to stitch his party together do not recognise this picture. Major, says Williams, "had a shrewd understanding of his party's mass psychology". At other times he accuses him of failing to connect with anything. In one extraordinary passage, Major is implicitly compared to Adolf Hitler when Williams describes Peter Lilley as "the Albert Speer of Major's Government".

Such imagery contrasts with the "note-bound Prime Minister dependent on briefing cards" described elsewhere. "Limp-wristed and ineffectual", it seems, Mr Major was also the Destroyer from Hell — but one whose real ambition, we learn, was "building a second pond in his Huntingdon Garden". A writer less deranged by his own great internal shudder might have noticed the need to decide which human horror is sitting for his portrait: the spineless drip or the scheming control freak.

I do not think the substance of Williams's critique of the Major Government requires answer. For the rest, Williams simply wants to hurt, deploying an unpleasant sort of playground mockery. "Happiest chatting about cricket": "extraordinary in his ordinariness": "laboured syntax . . . upwardly mobile." He thinks Major spends too long combing his hair. This sort of thing, returned to obsessively like an itch, makes you wonder what's eating the guy — and I don't mean Major.

For John Redwood there is, by contrast, a sort of lower-sixth-form adulation. Williams seems to have — at the ideological level — a crush on Mr Redwood. The gentle and affectionate ribbing about little personal idiosyncracies is quite telling. And both Williams and (in Williams's account) Redwood seem to share something I regard as instructive — a horror of uncleanness, lack of neatness, "low-mindedness". Again and again this obsessive fastidiousness surfaces, almost a fixation.

Another preoccupation is sex. Around Redwood's rivals and enemies Williams keeps hinting at an atmosphere of licence. In Michael Portillo's "circle", he says, those whom Iain Duncan Smith called "the libertines" found "a more relaxed attitude to personal and sexual morality". Later he remarks again that "the natural habitat of MPs such as Eric Forth, Michael Brown and Alan Duncan was Michael Portillo's circle. Social exuberance was more likely to be encountered there." Duncan Smith is quoted as gossiping about "the 'bachelor boys' who ran Hague's campaign". When, however, poor Mr Hague does marry, Williams then attacks his bride — "the Eva Peron" of Nineties Conservatism. But of William Hague's habit, as Secretary of State for Wales, of staying overnight in "carefully chosen 'bed-and-breakfast' establishments", Williams offers us Redwood's response: "It's a very good job for a bachelor."

Again we return to Mr Portillo, whose pamphlet is "adorned with a fetching photograph of the hero of the hour, an ample right thigh displayed to the photographer's lens". It is unclear what Williams is trying to say, but the implication that Redwood's rivals had, for some, the wrong sort of appeal is indisputable, though there is no suggestion that they encouraged this.

A strong sub-theme throughout this study is the attempt to undermine all possible leaders of the Right apart from Williams's unwilling hero, John Redwood. Redwood is esteemed by friends "for his valour and his love of liberty. He was the Tory Cato." When he resigned from Major's Cabinet "he had been surprised by his own joy as he chose freedom". Poor Mr Williams has so wildly overestimated Redwood's philosophical depth and political judgment that the effect is ludicrous. It's always tempting to impute/ Unlikely virtues to the cute.

Every swipe taken by Williams at Portillo or Michael Howard tends rather to improve our picture of them. Howard's loyalty to Major and Portillo's thoughtful hesitations sound human. But in the paranoid fantasy of Williams's creation, those who did not leap to his hero's support and join the mutiny are immediately denounced as betrayers. If they will not assist him in exposing the Conspiracy, they reveal themselves as part of the Conspiracy: the pathology is familiar. How alike are the mental processes of the Right to those of the Left.

The aim of this book has been to show that John Major destroyed the Conservative Party but that John Redwood might have, and might still, save it. Its effect, for all its brilliant mischief, will tend to the contrary view: that nobody could have led the nest of vipers Margaret Thatcher quit and that, quite possibly, nobody can now. If William Hague cannot lead his Party out of this wilderness, then Hywel Williams has come quite close to persuading me that nobody can. Williams offers no passage from the wilderness. He *is* the wilderness.

Philip Howard



■ **Eggheads take Domesday with a pinch of salt**

What lyrics the Spice Girls sing in their songs, or what portfolio the Minister without Portfolio will assume when he joins the Cabinet, though puzzling questions, are not beyond all conjecture. But the question of what should go under the Millennium Dome has come home to roost as the reply to the unanswerable question: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg?" To help the Millennium Domeheads, here are some helpful replies to the questions from sages down the ages.

Tony Blair: New Labour is tough on chickens and tough on the causes of chickens. I mean eggs, frankly, y'know. Those who seriously believe that we cannot improve on the Great Exhibition of 1851 when we are now in 1998 are not learning from our history but living it.

William Hague: There's nowt so queer as eggs, as we say oop in Yorkshire. When I was a likely lad at Wath-upon-Dearne, there was nothing I relished as much as hiking over the Yorkshire moors with my own shiny portable dome and mother's hard-boiled-egg and Yorkshire pudding sandwiches.

Plato: A hen is only an egg's way of making another egg. The ideal Millennium Dome we have described can never grow into a reality or see the light-of-day, and there will be no end to the troubles of states, or indeed humanity itself, till poultry farmers become presidents in this world, or till those we now call kings and rulers really and truly keep deep-litter chickens.

Edwina Currie: My message to the visitors to the Millennium Dome is that the one thing they should avoid in its ethnic restaurants is anything with egg in it, unless they want salmonella.

Bill Clinton: You can't unscramble scrambled eggs. But that is why I can stand the heat and am good in the kitchen. The urgent question of our time is whether we can make a comeback out of the millennium, using it as our vacuous spin doctor and not our enemy.

Ludwig Wittgenstein: If a chicken could talk, it would not understand itself. Someone, with every sign of puzzlement (sucking thumb, wrinkled eyes, sighs, scratching head): "But what is the Millennium Dome *for*?" Here the term "Dome-game" is meant to bring into prominence that the wombling about the dome is part of an activity, a game or a form of life.

David Hume: Does the Dome contain any abstract reasoning concerning quantity or number? Unfortunately, too much. Does it contain any abstract reasoning, concerning matter of fact and existence? It may, if all the millennium parasites in quest of their knighthoods have anything to do with the nonsense. Commit it then to the flames: for it can contain nothing but sophistry and illusion.

Scraatchi & Scraatchi: The Millennium Dome mission statement is a challenge that Scraatchi & Scraatchi are proud to take on board. The egg is a chicken *in potentia*. Our management and business advisory services can turn your geese into swans, give taste and votes to the white of an egg, and present this rotten egg under the Dome as an *omelette aux fines herbes*.

John Major: Two years on from now, Britain will still be the country of long shadows on [county] cricket grounds, cold foreign lager, invincible snobbish suburbs, cat lovers, and — as George Orwell said — old hens taking the Jubilee line to the Millennium Dome through the stops and silly announcements for suspect packages between every tunnel.

Aristotle: It is the nature of politicians to seek advantage out of every opportunity, even the calendarial coincidence of an inaccurate anniversary. A likely impossibility is always preferable to an unconvincing probability. To say of what the Dome is that it is not, and of what the Dome is not that it is, is false, while to say of what the Dome is that it is, and of what the Dome is not that it is not, is true.

Marx and Eggels: The Domeheads have only interpreted the world differently. What matters is to change it. The chickens have nothing to lose in this millennium, but their battery hen-houses. They have a Dome to gain. Chickens of the world, unite!

The kindergarten child: What happened to the naughty chicken at school? It was egg-spelled.

A. J. Ayer: The Dome is synthetic, making dodgy assertions about the empirical world, and is unsatisfactory. It came first, and so perhaps did the egg. But we must live with both. Alas.

Python's lion

MICHAEL PALIN is embarking on another epic voyage. The former clown from *Monty Python's Flying Circus* is to make a series of travel programmes for the BBC, revisiting the old haunts of Ernest Hemingway to mark the centenary of the American novelist's birth. Palin, who has developed a name for himself as a fine televisual presenter in *Pole to Pole* and *Full Circle*, will spin around Africa, Spain, Cuba, Key West and Paris, retracing the old roué's nomadic life and recounting his primitive pleasures such as bullfighting, deep-sea fishing and big-game hunting. "There are so many ways of looking at Hemingway," says Palin. "I shall be restricting my interest to his travels: although he is a great American writer, nearly all his books are set abroad."

Palin, who has researched Hemingway in depth for *Hemingway's Chair*, his latest novel, believes the writer sought to find out the essence of foreign spots, rarely staying in four-star hotels and inquiring about what made the locals tick. But the erstwhile comedian's film will not be hagiographical. "I don't really buy the Hemingway myth, but I am very interested in the myth and how it grew up," he says. "Hemingway was not always a pleasant man at all, something of a bully, but undoubtedly he was an extraordinary, charismatic figure and a great enthusiast for travel, which is what I like about him."



Palin: Hemingway

● *PEMBA GYALZEN, the Duchess of York's Sherpa during her 1994 walk in the Himalayas, is checking in at Sunningdale again. He once saved her from a herd of yaks — a skill that could prove useful to the Duchess, surrounded as she is by unforgiving courtiers.*

Sitting ducked

A WALL has been cleared and an artist booked. But the attempt to immortalise Tony Blair in the National Portrait Gallery is missing just one detail: the PM. Tradition dictates that an image of each First Lord of the Treasury be commissioned for our Pantheon. But although Blair initially accepted the invitation to sit with enthusiasm, he has yet to find the time. Charles Saumarez Smith, the director of the gallery, is also waiting keenly: "It is better to include people when they are at the summit of their fame rather than retrospectively." A hint, I suspect, that as Blair becomes balder, he should get his act together fast.

● *CHRISTINA ODONE is to inject a much-needed touch of style into that crusty old organ, the* New Statesman. *The spunky former Editor of the* Catholic Herald *is to be deputy to Peter Wilby, who last month took over the helm of the left-ish magazine owned by Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General. Let's hope she succeeds where so many others have failed.*

Top table

THE Earl of Halifax, whose stately pile in Yorkshire has acted as a safe house for the Prince of Wales and Camilla Parker Bowles, is a thoughtful chap. He recently bid successfully at auction for an antique French walnut concertina card table costing £5,500. Garrowby, Halifax's residence, featured in those ghastly Camillagate tapes. (Camilla: "Oh, I thought of you so much at Garrowby." Charles: "Did you?") Halifax, a close friend of the Prince, should now be able to entertain the couple in even greater style.

● *STRANGE couplings in Hollywood. Rupert Everett and Madonna are to star in* The Next Best Thing, *a romantic soufflé about a single woman who persuades her best friend to father her child. Any resemblance to Madonna's real life is purely coincidental.*

Cherie aide

FIONA MILLAR, the mother of Alastair Campbell's three children, is in great demand at No 10. The former hackette, who has been working part-time as Cherie Booth's spin-doctor and makeover consultant for the past year, has been upgraded to the position of full-time special adviser to the PM's wife. Her salary, I hear, is now in the region of £50,000. As Millar has been largely responsible for our First Lady's image, who can deny that substance is more important than style in the Blair administration?

EDWARD WELSH



Here's one I made earlier. Sophie Ellis Bextor, the lead singer of theaudience, a band tipped for chart success this year, is employing her parents, Jane Ellis, her Mum and a *Blue Peter* presenter of the Eighties, is helping to strum up media interest while Robin Bextor, her Dad and a film director, is making the group's video. "The only person who gets annoyed is my Dad because he directs our videos, which I always mention, but it never gets printed, so he thinks I'm neglecting him."

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COOKED UP

The Foreign Secretary has rushed to judgment prematurely

Sierra Leone is a small country with a miserable recent history that includes five years of unsparing civil war, an election and peace agreement, a coup and, this March, a counter-coup that restored its democratically elected Government. It is this last event that has given it a small chance now of writing a new and better chapter. That chance would not have been available had it not been for a commercial contract to supply Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, the country's internationally recognised President, with the military assistance that led to the successful removal of the nasty and illegitimate regime which forced him into exile in May last year.

Had President Kabbah not turned to the private sector, he would still be in exile. He had universal verbal backing; but during and after last year's coup, the only force Western governments used was to evacuate their nationals; Nigerian troops had tried to overthrow the plotters and failed.

The company which came to his rescue, Sandline International, is based in Britain — whose Prime Minister, Tony Blair, made a point of demonstrating British support for President Kabbah by welcoming him to last autumn's Commonwealth summit. Britain also drafted UN Security Council Resolution 1132 which, last October, invoked Chapter VII of the UN Charter — which provides for the use of armed force — to demand that the regime of Major Johnny Koromah "relinquish power" forthwith in favour of "the democratically elected Government".

Since the wrath of the "international community" had had not the slightest impact on the regime, a rational observer might have expected the British Government to be quietly pleased that unorthodox methods had worked. It certainly professed itself delighted by the result. Instead, Sandline has been placed under criminal investigation and Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, has flatly condemned the operation, protested his total ignorance and ordered a full inquiry into Sandline's assertion that the Foreign Office approved of its activities. The unfortunate Tony Lloyd, the junior minister for Africa, has been so desperate to prove that he knew nothing about anything until last weekend that, in his testimony to a Commons committee this week, he even forgot that he had been shown the papers about the customs investigation in mid-April. With the Tories, understandably, milking this farce for all it is worth, British politics is again mired in one of its fits of opportunistic morality.

Mr Cook's position is admittedly awkward. In opposition, he turned the Tories on the rack over the arms-for-Iraq affair; and in government, he has blazoned "ethics" on foreign policy and argued for a tough EU code on arms exports. In addition, when Britain is fighting a critical battle at the UN to maintain sanctions on Iraq until it complies with all UN resolutions, Britain cannot be seen to have connived at breaching another UN embargo of its own devising.

But these were reasons for pausing to think before rushing to condemn. Mr Cook's shrill protestations have unnecessarily raised the temperature. The key questions are whether Sandline broke a UN embargo and whether it did so with an official nod. To both the answers are unclear.

Resolution 1132 could be interpreted as permitting the Sandline shipments. Article 6 is straightforward. It enjoins all states to prevent "the sale or supply to Sierra Leone by their nationals" of all military and related equipment, "whether or not originating in their territory". But two other paragraphs make clear that this was aimed only at the illegitimate regime. The preamble cites the August 1997 decision by Ecowas, West Africa's economic and security organisation, to impose "sanctions against the military junta". And Article 8 authorises "the democratically elected Government of Sierra Leone" to co-operate with Ecowas in implementing the arms embargo.

Since President Kabbah could hardly have been asked to police a regime that was directed against him, a Foreign Office official might well have judged that giving Sandline the wink broke neither the letter nor the spirit of the law. If it did not, there was no need to alert ministers to an arm's-length arrangement entirely consistent with the British aim of restoring democracy to Sierra Leone. Mr Cook has the lawyer's killer instinct and the leftwinger's zeal. Not for the first time, he has failed to keep them under control. This time, the result may be wrongful damage to upright officials and, worse than that, to Britain's good name.

SINS AND SINNERS

Can the Pharisees of Sheffield tell the difference?

The leper's bell tolls over Sheffield Cathedral. Its superstition towards the unclean is as medieval as its 15th-century stones. The decision to bar the convicted sex offender Michael Cope from churches in the South Yorkshire diocese is illogical, intolerant and unchristian. In the name of security, as protection against the dangerous outsider, a moral panic has been encouraged. There are shades of Salem in this persecution.

The doors of God's house should be barred to no man, the redemptive power of his Gospel denied no one, however grievous his sin. Jesus chose to associate with outcasts to emphasise that His Father loved all men without distinction. It is the sin that is abhorrent, not the sinner. But that message seems lost on the Sheffield Pharisees.

The cathedral authorities are right to want to safeguard those children over whom they exercise a duty of care. Mr Cope has sexually assaulted choirboys before, and every reasonable step should be taken to prevent any repetition of the offence. But must his name be anathematised in public and he be barred from every church in South Yorkshire? Might it not have been wiser to deal with this concern quietly by encouraging this man to attend the cathedral regularly? Priests who knew him could see that he did not offend again and might even lead him to redemption. Instead of ensuring that he could be kept out of trouble by good shepherds, the diocese is now considering circulating his particulars to other churches in neighbouring dioceses. What could be better designed to cause parents fear, unsettle children and unbalance Mr Cope?

It is important, for the maintenance of the rule of law, that citizens feel the justice system ensures their security. If it is not seen to operate effectively and consistently, then respect for authority declines and vigilantism follows. Crimes which horrify, such as sexual offences against children, demand exemplary sentencing. But vigilantism is not only a consequence of authority abrogated, it can also be a consequence of authority irresponsibly exercised. For those with authority to demonise certain classes of criminal, and suggest that they, rather than their offences, are *intrinsically* repulsive, is to license witch-finders.

The fear of the unknown child abductor has a long history. The story of the Pied Piper and the demonisation of Jews and Gypsies who snatched Christian babies from their parents attest to the depth of the fear. It is because that fear is so powerful that sensitivity is required in safeguarding children from sexual offenders. But the majority of sexual offences against children are committed by family members or close friends, not strangers. The security of children is not enhanced by engendering a climate of fear.

DESERT ISLAND DINERS

One celebrity's luxury is another celebrity's *poisson*

Ideally the herring gulls would have been calling overhead, the waves crashing on the shingle and the sun beating down as the diners fed on whatever could be caught by a castaway. But neither roasted turtle, shredded coconut nor baked parrot was on the menu last night when more than 50 of those celebrities selected each week for musical shipwreck gathered at the Cafe Royal for a *Desert Island Discs* charity auction.

At least they did not all have to listen to the cacophony of their choices or sit through readings from their favourite books. It could have made a long evening: according to the BBC, which could fill a South Seas archipelago with the numbers cast adrift since 1942, the shipwrecked stars tend to select something long and heavy to while away their days under the palm trees: *War and Peace*, Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*, the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and Proust are among the top six literary companions. The trusty gramophone, which in Roy Plomley's golden days also included an endless supply of needles, meanwhile belts out endless amounts of Beethoven, Verdi and Elgar to keep lonely toes tapping while the castaways pluck guillemots or weave palm fronds.

Last night they faced none of those agonising choices which Sue Lawley inflicts on her reluctant hermits. It must have been painful nevertheless to donate, even in the name of a good cause, those treasured items intended to remind the famous of the world they left behind. For the castaways have memorably demanded some strange comforts: Derek Nimmo wanted a sack of garlic, Alan Ayckbourn a bouquet of flowers each month for a year and Oliver Reed an inflatable rubber woman. The most common luxuries include a typewriter, a radio, and golf clubs and balls. The piano is the most in demand but a bed — surely the most practical — comes only third on the list.

If all the castaways, who now number well over 2,000, were sent to the same surf-washed spot, they would by now fill a small town of fame and talent. They would hardly prove good neighbours, however, as their choices would quickly drive their fellows — and themselves — mad. Would they not tire of Schwarzkopf warbling her arias on all but one of the discs that she took with her, or the sound of D-type Jaguars roaring down the Muslanne Straight at Le Mans which Antony Hopkins would doubtless play at full volume? And how about the perpetual drunkenness of those who took nothing but wine or champagne to keep themselves amused? At least the crowded island would be spared some bores: among those who turned down an invitation was George Bernard Shaw, who returned Plomley's letter with a note scribbled in the margin: "No. Too busy with important things. G. B. S." Last night's charity dinner guests got on well. And at least no one forced them to name their eight favourite vegetables.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Euro policy: UK's 'walk-off part'

From Sir Nicholas Henderson

Sir, So once again Britain has decided to play a walk-off part in the next act of the most encouraging European drama of the 20th century.

The postponement of a decision on whether or not to join the single currency for anything up to four years means that Britain may well not be participating when in 2002 euro notes and coins start to circulate in place of national ones. It also means that for the same period we will rule ourselves out from the advantages of such a currency (while not avoiding the risks to which all European countries are exposed if the currency fails) and that we will not be taking part in all early decisions of the Euro-X Council.

It seems pusillanimous to postulate such a long delay before our economy can be judged ready to join. Within the last two years or so several members of the EU have so managed their economies as to achieve convergence over fiscal deficits, inflation and long-term interest rates in conformity with the Maastricht criteria.

Must we assume that the volatility of recent years will continue to impair our economic performance? As the months go by and as no crisis afflicts the countries that have joined, might not the Government see its way to an earlier and more constructive timetable?

Could it not announce that we do intend to join and will do so as soon as the necessary preparations have been made — unless fundamental economic objections preclude it?

Hardly a glorious pronunciamento, but it might hearten those at home who long for a more positive attitude to Europe from the Government; and it might encourage members participating in the currency to co-operate closely with us.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS HENDERSON
(Ambassador to West Germany, 1972-75; France, 1975-79; US, 1979-82),
6 Fairholt Street, SW7 1EG.
May 6.

From Mr Christopher Whiteside

Sir, There has been one benefit to the dispute over the appointment of a head for the European Central Bank (letters, May 6) — it provided an easy test to see which politicians can be trusted to assess the euro rationally.

Even professional economists may need careful thought to decide whether Maastricht convergence criteria such as budget deficits as a share of GDP have been fudged.

There is no such difficulty in assessing the deal about the Central Bank. An appointment which was supposed to be held for eight years has been filled by a candidate who we were assured would step aside after four years for a rival. Deciding whether the rules have been compromised would not tax the intellectual capacities of a ten-year-old.

So ministers such as Margaret Beckett, who dismiss criticism of this appointment as a fudge, have demonstrated whether their advice can be trusted when more difficult assessments have to be made in the future.

If politicians won't admit to a fudge when there is a sweetshop full under their noses, intelligent voters will know how seriously to take any similar advice they give in future about the criteria for British entry to the single currency.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS WHITESIDE,
41 Queens Crescent,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire AL4 9QQ.
May 7.

From Mr Jonathan Labrey

Sir, Is it not typical of the British attitude towards the European Union that so much time is expended on the triviality of personalities, rather than matters of substance?

The markets have reacted positively to what is a quite understandable compromise over the presidency of the European Central Bank. The result is stability — at least for eight years, and possibly for twelve. No wonder sterling has fallen like a stone since the weekend.

The key question is whether, if the euro works, and sustainable convergence takes place, the British Government has the guts to recommend membership of the single currency in a referendum.

This Government's indecision on the euro is systematically undermining our influence in Europe. In fact, were it not for the happy chance that we hold the presidency of the Union, Britain would have been pushed to the sidelines of the debate, influenced by others, but without influence ourselves.

That is the abdication of "sovereignty" we should most fear: and that it should happen in the name of a Labour Government, with all its affectations of pro-Europeanism, is the ultimate and regrettable betrayal of Britain's national self-interests.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN LABREY,
13 Hogarth House,
Erasmus Street, SW1P 4HS.
May 6.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Sources of funding and use of data in cancer research

From Professor Emeritus Brian Rabin

Sir, As a member of the scientific committee of the Cancer Research Campaign between 1971 and 1983, I was intrigued to read the report by Ian Murray on April 30, headed "Rivalry between cancer funds 'is wasting cash'".

I believe that Professor Gordon McVie, Director-General of the Cancer Research Campaign, is completely wrong to think that amalgamating cancer charities will be advantageous to either cancer research or cancer patients. It would, in my view, simply create larger pots to be more easily raided by others.

With a few notable exceptions, improved cancer therapy has resulted from work in major pharmaceutical companies rather than the large, well-funded major cancer charities. My own small company, London Biotechnology Limited, founded in 1984 and employing initially tiny resources, has jointly with Zeneca designed an entirely novel therapeutic system for cancer treatment, based on mutated human enzymes. Zeneca is developing this system at great financial cost, and we believe it to be the best prospect currently available for improved cancer therapy.

I am very pleased that this therapeutic system derives from work by others which was supported by the Cancer Research Campaign. I do not believe that it would have been funded by an organisation like the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, whose main function appears to be to create career opportunities for molecular biologists.

Long may the Cancer Research Campaign and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund go their separate ways!

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN R. RABIN,
34 Grangewood,
Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 1SL.
rabin@mcmail.com
May 6.

From the Chief Executives of the Institute of Cancer Research and of the Royal Marsden NHS Trust

Sir, The working partnership represented by our two organisations creates one of the world's leading cancer centres. We receive funding from many sources: medical research charities of all sizes, government, corporate trusts and individuals, commercial collaborations and our own fundraising.

This diversity of funding is necessary for us to carry out our work. Those engaged in research are best placed to co-ordinate these many and frequently complementary funding streams. Diversity is welcome.

The issue here is not how many charities are fundraising for cancer research, but whether that money is spent in centres of excellence.

Cancer research is now big science, requiring sophisticated facilities, critical mass and wide access to patients. The track records of our own and similar institutions worldwide is evidence of the value of combining size with focus and dedication.

Yours faithfully,
PETER GARLAND,
Chief Executive,
The Institute of Cancer Research,
PHYLLIS CUNNINGHAM,
Chief Executive,
The Royal Marsden NHS Trust,
203 Fulham Road,
London SW3 6JJ.
May 1.

From Dr Jack Cuzick, Chairman of the Working Party of the International Breast Cancer Intervention Study (IBIS), and others

Sir, We were surprised and disappointed to hear about the closing of the North American breast cancer prevention trial reported by Professor Jordan (letter, April 20).

An obligation to inform the women in the trial of the promising results so far is acknowledged, but we see little justification in closing the trial at a stage when the long-term risks and benefits are far from clear.

This was the view of our Data and Safety Monitoring Committee who, after a thorough review of all the evidence, including that from the more than 4,000 women in our own trial, recommended that we should continue. Indeed, even the women in our trial have strongly supported this action. We wrote to all of them about the American data and decision as soon as we were aware of it, and to date no one has chosen to have their treatment code revealed to them.

A more extensive discussion with the women in the "participants committee", which consists of two representative women in the trial from each of the 18 regional centres, has also strongly supported the need to continue our trial so as to get the right answer. Accordingly, we are continuing to recruit high-risk women towards our goal of 7,000 participants.

The American decision to abandon their trial and begin a new trial to evaluate Raloxifene against Tamoxifen means that they will not have a reliable baseline for comparison.

It will be problematic as to whether differences will be due to benefits of one drug or weaknesses in the other, and one wonders what pressures prompted such a precipitous decision.

Yours sincerely,
JACK CUZICK,
Chairman, Working Party, IBIS,
MICHAEL BAUM,
Medical Advisor, IBIS,
ANTHONY HOWELL,
Chairman,
Breast Cancer Subcommittee,
UK Co-ordinating Committee for Cancer Research,
International Breast Cancer Intervention Study (IBIS),
61 Lincoln's Inn Fields,
London WC2A 3PX.
j.cuzick@icrf.icnet.uk
April 28.

Steps needed to combat drug abuse

From Dr Mark Galeotti

Sir, The Government's new policy on combating drugs is welcome (report, April 28), but the limited measures on sequestering drugs barons' profits are only a first step. With a turnover in the billions, the illegal narcotics industry can easily afford to outspend the Government's £5 million education drive. Like any retail industry, it can discount, distribute free supplies and respond to and create fashions, all to maintain demand.

For long-term education and health programmes to be allowed to take effect the industry needs to be prevented from investing in its own survival. The City and other financial centres need to redouble their lacklustre efforts to prevent themselves from being used as money laundries.

Intelligence services, which still too often devote their resources to the comfortingly familiar targets of yesterday's Cold War, need to concentrate on disrupting drugs traffickers and their financial networks. Tracing and sequestering funds must be seen not simply as a useful means of subsidising the campaign but central to it.

Drugs barons, after all, are ultimately like any other multinational entrepreneur. They are quite happy to take risks and fight off competition — but only if there is a profit in it.

Yours faithfully,
MARK GALEOTTI
(Director), Organised Russian and Eurasian Crime Research Unit,
Keele University,
Staffordshire ST5 5BG.
hia15@cc.keele.ac.uk

From the Chief Executive of the Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust

Sir, Stewart Tendler's report correctly highlights the devastating effects and costs associated with addiction and crime, some £4 billion a year. Research published by the Maudsley Hospital this week showed that a group of 1,100 long-term drug users committed £34 million-worth of crime in the three-month period before treatment.

Treatment works and treatment that addresses both addiction and criminal activity is highly cost-effective. No fewer than 40 per cent of prisoners who go through our prison-based programmes go on to lead law-abiding and abstinent lives. Yet these programmes cost only £2,000 per person.

Providing funding for programmes like ours must be a vital part of the Government's efforts to break what Tony Blair, in his foreword to the White Paper, called "the vicious cycle of drugs and crime which wrecks lives and threatens communities".

Yours faithfully,
ADAM SAMPSON,
Chief Executive,
RAPt (Rehabilitation for Addicted Prisoners Trust),
179 Vauxhall Bridge Road, SW1V 1ER.
April 28.

From Mr David Brown

Sir, It is interesting, is it not, that a complete debate on the problem of drugs can be conducted with great passion, and yet hardly a soul is prepared to question why people take drugs in the first place?

Is no-one interested in why a large proportion of the population feel the need to alter their minds in both legal and illegal ways?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID H. P. BROWN,
55 Kendall Avenue South,
South Croydon, Surrey CR2 0QR.
April 28.

Lads and lasses

From Dr Victoria Reese

Sir, Which came first — "laddish", boorish behaviour from young men or assertive behaviour from women?

I take issue with Jack Straw (report, April 28, earlier editions) that "assertive women ... were partly to blame for creating a generation of young male social misfits". It is more likely that it is their fathers' lack of parental responsibility, but maybe that is not politically correct. Or has the Government run out of scapegoats?

Yours faithfully,
VICTORIA REESE,
2 St Nicholas Road,
Salisbury, Wiltshire SP1 2SN.
April 30.

Team spirit

From Mr John Davie

Sir, Does team spirit engender success in football or success team spirit? Arsenal's Latin motto *Victoria concordia crescit* leans to the former interpretation, but the ambiguity remains and only a brave man would come down on one side or the other.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DAVIE
(Head of Classics),
St Paul's School,
Lonsdale Road, SW13 9JT.
May 4.

Redwood rumours

From Mr Bruce Anderson

Sir, The extract from Hywel Williams's book published in *The Times* today ("Treachery in the Tory camp") contains the following statement in the form of a purported quotation from John Redwood: "Bruce Anderson took me out to dinner and tried to get me to talk about sex so he could report back to the Prime Minister and they would then get a hold over me."

I cannot decide whether to respond to this nonsense with amusement or with indignation; no such dinner took place.

I can only recall one meal *à deux* with Mr Redwood. It was a lunch at the Ecu de France in Jermyn Street, when he was head of the No 10 policy unit; we discussed the economy. I had not spoken to him for some months before his leadership bid, let alone broken bread with him.

That someone should have invented the absurd tale which Mr Williams recounts may tell us a lot about the paranoiac atmosphere in the Redwood camp circa 1995. It tells us nothing about what actually happened.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE ANDERSON
(Political columnist),
The Spectator,
56 Doughty Street,
London, WC1N 2LL.
May 7.

Nappies and collars

From Dr John D. Ault

Sir, How times change ("Nappies and the Pill set women free", report, May 2).

When I was a (married) student at Imperial College, South Kensington, in the early 1950s, my wife and I enjoyed a life-saving nappy service — a canvas bag full of disgusting, soiled, re-usable nappies left on one's doorstep was miraculously replaced within 25 hours by a bag of ultra-clean, dry, wholesome ones.

Collars Ltd provided the same sort of service for the stiff, white, separate collars that — it seems astounding now — were *the* thing for the well-dressed student at the time. I used to carry an umbrella when visiting Harrods to avoid being mistaken for a store assistant.

We didn't have the Pill.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN AULT,
Hampden House, St Swithin's Road,
Sherborne, Dorset DT9 3DN.
May 2.

Breaking the code

From Mrs M. Poels

Sir, In his review of *The Crown Jewels* (Books, April 30), Alistair Horne speaks of Anthony Blunt wheedling his way into MI5's Registry during the last war. I can assure him no wheedling was necessary.

In order to get into the Registry at MI5 when it was operating at Blenheim Palace it was only necessary to walk around the palace to a secluded part of the garden. There one came to a small green door which led down into a labyrinth of passages, pipes, boilers, etc, under the palace.

Proceeding cautiously up a winding iron staircase one popped up behind the organ in the Great Library — then used by MI5 as its Registry.

Yours faithfully,
M. POELS,
Small Dean End, Wendover,
Buckinghamshire HP22 6PQ.
May 5.

Business-speak

From Mr Alan Hadfield

Sir,I can tell Robin Martin (letter, April 30) where some people have gone with their business-speak. Proceeding logistically along the M3 to Basingstoke last Saturday morning I and a line of other drivers inched past a lorry which had its nose down in the ditch. On its side were the words in bold: "Appropriate Logistics."

Yours sincerely,
ALAN HADFIELD,
12 Chipstead Close,
Maidstone, Kent ME16 0DH.
April 30.

From Mrs Alex Scott

Sir, I am a casualty rather than a student of business-speak. For the last 18 months I have worked as a waitress in the conference and banqueting department of a large hotel. As from today I shall be known as an event services attendant. The job will remain unchanged.

Yours in disbelief,
ALEX SCOTT,
Lea Bank, Tredington,
Warwickshire CV36 4NN.
May 1.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

May 7: His Excellency Mr Valentin Dobrev was received in audience by The Queen today and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador from the Republic of Bulgaria to the Court of St James's.

Sir John Kerr (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present.

Colonel Thomas Hall was received by The Queen and delivered up his Stick of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Lieutenant of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

The following Officers of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms were received by The Queen: Lieutenant Colonel Richard Mayfield who delivered up his Stick of Office as Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant and received his Stick of Office upon his appointment as Lieutenant, and Colonel David Fanshawe who received his Stick of Office upon his appointment as Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant.

Sir James Carlisle (Governor-General of Antigua and Barbuda) and Lady Carlisle were received by Her Majesty.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon visited the Royal Mews, Buckingham Palace, to launch the change to the use of Liquid Petroleum Gas in Royal cars.

The Rt Hon John Prescott MP (Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions) was present.

His Royal Highness, Patron, Outward Bound Trust, and Gold Card Life Member, the Variety Club of Great Britain, this afternoon attended a Sports Award Lunch at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane, London W1.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening gave a Dinner for Charter Founder Members at Buckingham Palace.

CLARENCE HOUSE

May 7: Lady Penn has succeeded Dame Frances Campbell-Preston as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

ST JAMES'S PALACE

May 7: The Prince of Wales, President, The Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, this morning chaired a meeting of the Institute's Council at Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, London NW1.

His Royal Highness, President, this afternoon attended a Reception at St James's Palace to promote the work of The Prince's Trust to business leaders and youth agencies.

The Prince of Wales later received the Governor-General of New Zealand and Lady Hardie-Boys.

His Royal Highness this evening attended the St George's Day Dinner of the Honourable Artillery Company at Armoury House, City Road, London EC1.

KENSINGTON PALACE

May 7: The Duke of Gloucester today visited Cumbria and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr James Cropper).

His Royal Highness this morning opened the Warehouse and Distribution Centre of Historical Collections Group plc, Lillyhall, Workington.

The Duke of Gloucester later visited the Innovation Centre, Westlakes Science and Technology Park, Moor Row.

His Royal Highness afterwards opened the International Research and Graduate Centre, Westlakes.

The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon opened the factory of Cumbrian Sea Foods Limited in Maryport.

His Royal Highness afterwards visited Netherhall Comprehensive School, Maryport.

The Duke of Gloucester subsequently visited Maryport Harbour.

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit Dorset.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Duke of York will attend the closing dinner of the 30th Society of Experimental Test Pilots European Symposium at Manchester Town Hall, at 7.10.

The Broderers' Company

At a meeting of the Court of Assistants of the Broderers' Company held at Grocers' Hall yesterday, Queen Noor of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was graciously pleased to be admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the Company. Following the ceremony, the Master, Mr Stuart Errington, CBE, assisted by the Warden, Mr Colin Hart, and the Renter Warden, Mr Anthony Peck, entertained Queen Noor at a Luncheon of the Court and Livery to which ladies were invited.

St Mary's School Ascot

Members of the Ascot Old Girls Association are invited to the annual Old Girls' and Families Day which will take place on Saturday, May 9, at the school from 2.30pm.

Armourers' & Brasiers' Company

The following have been elected officers of the Armourers' and Brasiers' Company for the ensuing year: Master, Mr J.H. Hale; Upper Warden, Mr G.A. Garnett; Renter Warden, the Ven C.J.H. Wagstaff.

Church in Wales

Diocese of Swansea and Brecon

Canon Elwyn C. John, Vicar of Brecon St Mary, to be Chancellor of Brecon Cathedral.

Canon Brian H. Jones, Vicar of Killay, to be Canon Treasurer of Brecon Cathedral.

Canon Peter Jackson to be Canon Precentor of Brecon Cathedral.

Birthdays today

Sir David Attenborough, CH, naturalist, 72; Lord Blyth of Rowington, 58; Sir Philip Carter, former chairman, Merseyside Development Corporation, 71; Mr Jack Charlton, footballer, 63; Sir Ian Denholm, former president, General Council of British Shipping, 71; Miss Viviana Durante, ballerina, 31; Viscount Falkland, 63; Miss Heather Harper, soprano, 68; Lord Justice Hoffmann, 64; Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle, 73; Mr D.W. Kendall, former chairman, Meyer International, 63; Mr Roger Kendrick, former Governor, Dartmoor prison, 64; Mr Norman Lamont, former MP, 56; Father Graham Leonard, KCVO, former Bishop of London, 77; Mr Maurice Lindsay, chief executive, Rugby Football League, 57; Dame Felicity Lott, soprano, 51; Lord Murton of Lindisfarne, 84; Admiral Sir Neville Purvis, 62; Mr Thomas Pynchon, author, 61; Mr Dennis Scard, trade unionist, 55; Mr Johnny Searle, rower, 29; Mr Alastair Service, chairman, Wiltshire Health Authority, 65; Air Marshal Sir Michael Simmons, 61; Mr David Sole, rugby player, 36; Sir Ronald Waterhouse, former High Court judge, 72.

Service dinners

Honourable Artillery Company

The Prince of Wales attended the Honourable Artillery Company's annual St George's dinner held last night at Armoury House. General Sir Michael Wilkes presided. Field Marshal Sir John Stanier, Viscount Ridley, KG, and Colonel Tony Sellon also spoke.

Castaways Club

Lieutenant Sir William Benyon presided at the annual dinner of the Castaways Club held last night at Lincoln's Inn. Among those present were:

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach, Admirals Sir Michael Boyce, Sir John Brigstocke, Sir James Eberle, Sir Michael Livesay and Sir Jock Slater, Vice-Admirals Sir Peter Ashmore, Sir Peter Berger, Sir Stephen Berthon, Sir John Cadell and Sir James Weatherall and Rear-Admirals Sir Peter Anson, Sir Nigel Cecil, T W Loughnan, S Moore, P B Rowe, J F T G Salt and J G Tolhurst.

Dinners

The Speaker

The Speaker was the host at a dinner in honour of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan and Mrs Soomro held last night at Speaker's House. Among others present were:

The High Commissioner for Pakistan and Mrs Samee, Sir Alan Haselhurst, MP and Lady Haselhurst, Sir Teddy Taylor, MP, and Lady Taylor, Sir David and Lady Dain, Sir Gordon and Lady Downey, Canon Donald Gray, Mr Donald Gorrie, MP, and Mrs Gorrie, Mr Peter Pike, MP, and Mrs Pike, Mr Laurence Robertson, MP, and Mrs Robertson, Mr Mohammad Sarwar, MP, and Mrs Sarwar, Mr Keith Vaz, MP, and Mrs Vaz, Mr Bowen Wells, MP, Miss Jennifer Gordon, Mr Peter West, Mr Charles Winnifrith and Mr and Mrs Nicolas Bevan.

Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company

Mr Alderman Clive Martin, Master of the Stationers' and Newspaper Makers' Company, presided at a dinner held last night at Stationers' Hall to mark the 441st anniversary of the company's charter. Lord Rees-Mogg and Mr Richard Harrison, Under Warden, also spoke.

After the dinner Judge Lawrence Verney, Recorder of London, presented awards from the company's educational charity to Miss Anne Marie Ryan, Miss Vanessa Heaney and Mr David Stanford.

European-Atlantic Group

Lord Judd presided at a dinner of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at St Ermin's Hotel, SW1, following a meeting at the House of Commons sponsored by Mr Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, MP. M Jean-Claude Banon, President of the French Chamber of Commerce, Professor Alex Danchev, Keele University, Sir John Fretwell and Sir Peter Petrie were the speakers.

The Ambassadors of Luxembourg, Estonia, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the High Commissioner of Malawi were among others present.

Royal Aeronautical Society

Mr Serge Dassault, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Dassault Aviation, was the guest of honour at the annual dinner of the Royal Aeronautical Society held last night at the Hotel InterContinental, London W1. Captain W.D. Lowe, president, was in the chair.

Defence and Security Forum

Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill was the guest speaker at a dinner to mark the 15th anniversary of the Defence and Security Forum held last night at the Carlton Club. Colonel Philip Howes, chairman, and Lady Olga Maitland, president, also spoke.

Old Mercers' Club

Mr B.J. Atkins presided at the annual dinner of the Old Mercers' Club held last night at Mercers' Hall. Mr D.A. Tate, Master, Mr P.R. Withers-Green, house warden, Mr M. Wakeford, clerk, and Professor T. Cannon were the principal guests.

Luncheon

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Mr Donald Anderson, MP, Chairman of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK branch executive committee, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday in the House of Commons in honour of Commonwealth Parliamentarians attending the 1998 Commonwealth Parliamentary visit at Westminster.

FIONA HANSON



The actress Jenny Seagrove with Becky Chady, to whom she presented the title of Marie Curie Nurse of the Year in London yesterday

Friend inspired winning nurse

A CANCER care nurse who joined the profession after a close friend died of the disease was named as England's Marie Curie Nurse of the Year yesterday. Becky Chady, 34, of Beeston, Nottinghamshire, received her award from the actress Jenny Seagrove at the charity's headquarters in London.

Ms Chady was chosen from more than 4,000 cancer care nurses in England to promote the work of the charity this year, its 50th anniversary.

Accepting the award, Ms Chady said: "I am absolutely delighted and moved to have been chosen as Marie Curie Nurse of the Year for England. I feel very privileged and am extremely excited about the challenge ahead.

"My schoolfriend Alma Harris died of cancer when she was 21. She inspired me to work with people with cancer and I would like to dedicate my year to her."

As a team leader, Ms Chady trains and supports the Marie Curie Nurses who work throughout Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire and parts of South Yorkshire, caring for people seriously ill with cancer in their own homes. She also looks after patients living in Nottingham.

Marie Curie has 11 specialist cancer care centres in addition to its nationwide network of nurses, and carries out research into the prevention, early detection and treatment of cancers.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev David Ashworth, Vicar, Prestbury St Peter (Chester): to be also Rural Dean of Macclesfield (same diocese).

The Rev Lewis Atkinson, Vicar, Oughtibridge (Sheffield): to be also Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Richard Atkinson, Vicar, Rotherham (Sheffield): to be also Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Martin Baldock, Vicar, Brampton Bierlow (Sheffield): to be also Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Peter Ballard, Vicar, Lancaster Christ Church w St John and St Anne, and Rural Dean of Lancaster (Blackburn): to be Diocesan Director of Education, and Canon Residentiary of Blackburn Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Anthony Bedell, Curate, Bedford Leigh St Thomas w All Saints Mission (Manchester): to be Vicar, Blackburn St Luke w St Philip (Blackburn).

The Rev Richard Blackburn, Vicar, Mosborough St Mark (Sheffield): to be also Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral (same diocese).

The Rev Christine Blakesley, Assistant Curate, Darlington Holy Trinity (Durham): to be Team Vicar, East Darlington (same diocese).

The Rev Chris Boyce, Vicar, New Brighton St James w Emmanuel (Chester): to be Priest-in-Charge, New Brighton All Saints (same diocese).

The Rev Peter Cameron, Vicar, Fenstanton, and Hilton (Ely): to be NSM Priest-in-Charge, Wisbech St Mary (same diocese).

The Rev David Williams, Chaplain, North Kent Health Care NHS Trust (Canterbury & Rochester), to be also Honorary Canon of Rochester Cathedral.

The Rev David Williams, Vicar, Singleton St Anne with Weeton St Michael (Blackburn), to be Curate, Lancaster St Mary (same diocese).

Retirements and resignations

The Rev David Benson, Vicar, Totley (Sheffield), to retire on September 30.

Canon Christopher Gane, Rector, Hopton (St Edmundsbury & Ipswich), on July 6.

The Rev Dr David Gay, Vicar, Worsbrough St Thomas and St James (Sheffield), resigned on March 21.

The Rev Colin Hickling, Vicar, Arksey (Sheffield), to retire on April 30.

The Rev Malcolm Hirons, Vicar, Norton Woodseats St Paul (Sheffield), to retire on June 30.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Alain René Le Sage, novelist, Sarzeau, Brittany, 1668; William Jay, dissenting minister, Tisbury, Wiltshire, 1769; Thomas Hancock, pioneer of the rubber industry, Marlborough, Wiltshire, 1786; Jean Henri Dunant, founder of the International Red Cross, Geneva, 1828; Harry S. Truman, 33rd American President 1945-53, Lamar, Missouri, 1884; Sidney James, actor, Johannesburg, 1914; Sonny Liston, boxer, Arkansas, 1932.

DEATHS: Antoine Lavoisier, chemist, executed, Paris, 1794; John Stuart Mill, philosopher, Avignon, 1873; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, Croisset, France, 1880; Paul Gauguin, painter, Atuana, Marquesas Islands, 1903; Eadweard Muybridge, photographer and pioneer of the study of animal locomotion, Kingston-upon-Thames, 1904; Harry Gordon Selfridge, founder of the London store, London, 1947; Emmanuel Shinwell, Baron Shinwell, statesman, London, 1986.

The British monarchy was restored, 1660.

In the first international yacht race, the Bermudian boat Peart beat the American Brenda, 1849.

Afrikaans became the official language of South Africa, 1924.

VE (Victory in Europe) Day, 1945.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.G. Allinson and Miss K.R. Budgett

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs George Allinson, of Northampton, and Katharine, daughter of the Reverend Prebendary Anthony and Mrs Budgett, of Wellington, Somerset.

Mr G.F.M. Clark and Miss S.E. Jarvis

The engagement is announced between Gregory, only son of Dr and Mrs Francis Clark, of Ashtead, Surrey, and Stephanie, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Jarvis, of Little Bealings, Suffolk.

Mr S. Clark and Miss K. Meakings

The engagement is announced between Steven, only son of Mr and Mrs Don Clark, of Stalybridge, Cheshire, and Karen, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Meakings, of Crawley, Sussex.

Captain H.R.W. Jones and Miss D.H. Blewitt

The engagement is announced between Captain Hume Jones, The Royal Green Jackets, elder son of General Sir Edward and Lady Jones, of Winchfield, Hampshire, and Davina, daughter of Major Sir Shane and Lady Blewitt, of Duncton, West Sussex.

Mr S.W.R. Pearson Miles and Miss H.C. Hughes

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the Revd Tiggs and Mrs Pearson Miles, of Barcombe, Sussex, and Helen, daughter of the Revd Christopher and Mrs Hughes, of Ballater, Aberdeenshire.

Mr D.I. Rimmer and Miss J. Koldewey

The engagement is announced between Daniel, son of Mr and Mrs Laurance Rimmer, of Thorpeness, Suffolk, and Joanna, younger daughter of Mr Richard Koldewey, of Washington DC, and Mrs Jane Koldewey, of Appledore, Devon.

Major H.A. Watson and Miss C.A. Perkins

The engagement is announced between Major Angus Watson, The Light Dragoons, elder son of Major General and Mrs Stuart Watson, of Askett, Buckinghamshire, and Caroline, twin daughter of the late Mr Timothy Perkins and of Mrs Timothy Perkins, of Harriesham, Kent.

Major N.J. Storey and Miss A.K. White

The engagement is announced between Major Nicholas Storey, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's), younger son of Mr and Mrs John Storey, of Kimpton, Hampshire, and Amanda, younger daughter of the late Dr George White and of Dr Jane White, of Lower Bartestree, Herefordshire.

Lieutenant Colonel I.D. Westerman and Captain L.C. Launders

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Colonel Ian David Westerman, Royal Signals, only son of the late Mr and Mrs Albert Westerman, and Captain Lucinda Caryl Launders, Royal Signals, elder daughter of Lieutenant Colonel (Retd) and Mrs Nicholas Launders, of Peppard Common, Henley on Thames.

Marriages

Mr J.S. Beach and Mrs F.M.S. Mackie

A service of blessing was held in Old Court Chapel, Strangford, County Down, on Thursday, May 7, 1998, following the marriage of Mr John Stapley Beach, of Kynes Cottage, Shanes Castle, Antrim, and Mrs Simone Mackie (widow of Mr Sven Mackie), of Ballydugan House, Downpatrick, County Down.

Mr R. Crane and Miss H.J. Baldwin

The marriage took place on Sunday, May 3, 1998, in St Margaret's Church, Barking, of Mr Robert Crane, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Leslie Crane, to Miss Helen Janette Baldwin, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Baldwin. The Rector of Barking, the Rev John Parsons, officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father. Mr Neil Robert Baldwin was best man.

A reception was held at the Garden Court, Hanbury Manor, Ware, and the honeymoon will be spent in Mauritius.

Mr E.M. Hamilton and Miss A. Millard

The marriage took place on Friday, April 24, at Crathorne Hall, North Yorkshire, of Mr Elliot Hamilton to Miss Amanda Millard.

A reception was held at Skelton Castle and the honeymoon is being spent abroad.

Sevenoaks School

The following Awards are announced:

Sixth Form (16+)

Sackville Scholarships

Su-Ann Cheah (Garden International School, Kuala Lumpur); Anna Davies (Tonbridge Grammar); Timothy Hill (Penrice Comprehensive); Amy Rogers (Tonbridge Grammar); Katie de Wit (Kent College).

Bleyberg International Baccalaureate Scholarships

Sophie-Kate Browne (St Mary's, Calne); Emily Butler (École Internationale, Strasbourg); Kathrin Dombrowski (Ardingly); Anna Kielbratowska (First Community School, Warsaw); Jonathan Layton (Bedales); Nicole Oppler (Surbiton High); Charlotte Rawlinson (College Marie de France, Montreal); Georgina Wolfe (St Swithun's, Winchester).

Alan Tammadge Mathematics Scholarship

Jin-Ju Cheong (Garden International School, Kuala Lumpur).

Richard Barker Science Scholarship

Simidele Dosekun (Sherborne Girls' School).

Geoffrey Garrod Language Scholarship

Rebecca Olasz (Baleares International School, Mallorca).

Sir William Pile Scholarships

Stuart Maleno (St Gregory's, Tunbridge Wells); Olivia de Rougemont (Hayesfield School, Bath).

Exhibitions

Adeline Boatin (St David's, Ashford); Dominique Darvas (St Mary's, Pretoria); Clare Fernyhough (Brighton & Hove High); Gareth Lim (Garden International School, Kuala Lumpur); Sharan Parikh (Bombay International School).

Middle School (13+)

Major Scholarships

Matthew Dixon (St Michael's Otford); Steven Jones (Northbourne Park); Andrew Tam (Vinehall).

Minor Scholarships

Ronald Brockmann (Hazelwood); Robert Ozanne (Solefield); Isabelle Schoeicher (Couesmore).

Foundation Scholarships

Alexander Dale (Hazelwood); Holly Dedman (Holmewood House); Camilla Kendrick (Dulwich Prep, Cranbrook); George Mitchell (Hazelwood); Phillip Stjestad (New Beacon); Matthew West (Holmewood House).

Junior School (11+)

Major Scholarships

Peter Bunch (Russell House); Timothy Kendrick (Dulwich Prep, Cranbrook); Venetia Jennings (Russell House); Elizabeth Mayhew (Kent College Junior).

Foundation Scholarships

Christopher Byrne (Our Lady's Convent, Abingdon); Amy Gunning (The Granville); Katherine Hills (St Michael's, Otford); Chelsea Jude-Traillor (Stonegate Primary); Edward Lidington (Shipbourne Primary); Miriam Ozanne (The Granville); Annabelle Perry (The Granville); Kim Schiebler (St Thomas's RC Primary); Emma Tinsley (Derwent Lodge).

Music Awards

Major Scholarships

13+: Eloise Irving (Cumnor House).

11+: Catherine Stuart (Hilden Oaks).

Minor Scholarships

16+: Stephen Boon (Ashcombe School, Dorking).

Foundation Scholarships

13+: Emily Hastings (Bodiam Manor).

Exhibitions

13+: Matthew West (Holmewood House).

11+: Peter Bunch (Russell House); Amy Gunning (The Granville).

Art Awards

13+: Rachel Buck (Sevenoaks); Laura Shirreff (Sevenoaks).

Specialist Awards

The Worshipful Company of Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacco Blenders Awards for Academic and All-Round Achievement

16+: Philippa Bone (Notre Dame, Cobham); Alexandra Dukes (Palo Alto High, California); Antonia Wilmot-Smith (Combe Bank).

13+: David Burden (New Beacon); Henry Marshall (Holmewood House).

Sevenoaks School is a registered charity (No 307923) for the purposes of education.

Appointments

Mr Paul Robert Barclay and Mr David Keith Ticehurst to be Circuit Judges, assigned to the Western Circuit.

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For Jesus's sake we are all our life being handed over to death, so that the life of Jesus may be revealed in this mortal body of ours. 2 Corinthians 4: 11.

BIRTHS

BOKARE-MOSS - On April 29th at The Portland Hospital, to Pernille and Jonathan, a daughter, Alma Daphne. En Lille Kvalitegle!

BRENNER - On April 24th, to Talitha (nee Haynes) and Neal, a daughter, Kezia Helen.

DELEW - On May 2nd to Amanda (nee Kleeman) and Russell, a son, James Edward (Jamie).

HAM - On May 6th, at home, to Joanna (nee Symonds-Orr) and Nicholas, a daughter, Rosanna Kathryn, a sister for Lucy.

KNOTT - On May 2nd at The Portland Hospital, to Victoria and Kim, a son, Tom Conrad Somerset.

LAWRENCE - On May 5th in California, to Charles and Karin, a son, Silas Charles Yeager. Brother to Miles and Grace.

McCOY - On May 3rd at Hereford County Hospital, to Sarah and Stephen, a son, Henry John Alexander, a chum for Archie.

PATTULLO - On 2nd May 1998 at the Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow to Kenneth and Lisseny, a daughter, Charlotte Emily, a sister for Harry.

RAY - On 28th April 1998, to Majda (nee Glumcebeg) and Dombair, a (slightly early) son, Marcus Sebastian Anthony.

REID - On Friday 24th April 1998, to Emma (nee Gerkin) and Robert, a son, Oliver Valentine.

SHARKEY - On April 27th at Worthing Hospital, to Suzy and Alex, a son, Dylan William Alexander, a brother for Joseph.

BIRTHS

WALLEY - On 20th April 1998, to Annie and Nick, a son, Mackenzie Skene Smallwood.

WRIGHT - On May 1st at The Portland Hospital, to Kathryn and James, a son, Sebastian, a brother for Sarah and Kieran.

DEATHS

AKOMFRAH - Grace on April 20th 1998 in Accra, devoted and much loved mother of George, Evans, Richmond and Seth, loving grandmother of Ashley, Charlotte, Kwaga, Jessica, George and Lewis. Service and Wake at Kensington United Reformed Church, Allen Street, London W8, Saturday 9th May 1998 from 7 pm. Memorial Service to be arranged later.

ASTON - Canon Norman William James died peacefully at home on May 5th 1998 in his 78th year. Former Chancellor Llandaff Cathedral and Chaplain University Hospital of Wales. Devoted husband of Kate and much loved father of Michael and Mary, grandfather of Jayne, Rachel, Victoria, James and Matthew. Requiem Eucharist at Llandaff Cathedral on May 13th at 12 noon prior to Cremation at Thornhill Crematorium. If desired, in lieu of flowers, donations to The Tyncwyn, Friends of Llandaff Cathedral, Llandaff Cathedral, Cardiff, CF5 2YZ.

DEATHS

BEGG - On 1st May 1998, peacefully, Diana Isabel Mary (nee Hagan), dear wife of Keith, beloved mother and grandmother. Requiem Mass at Lyndhurst R.C. Church at 10.30 am on Monday 18th May, followed by cremation at Bournemouth. No flowers please but donations, if desired, for the Alzheimer's Research Trust may be sent c/o F.W. House and Sons, 33/34 St Thomas' Street, Lymington, Hampshire SO41 9NE.

BENNINGFIELD - Gordon died peacefully on 4th May at Princess Grace Hospital W1. Much loved husband of Betty, father of Sally and Sarah, brother of Roger. Will be greatly missed by all the family. Funeral Service at the Church of St John the Baptist, Great Cheverden, Herts on Tuesday 12th May at 2 pm. Flowers or donations for Cancer Research Campaign to L.C. Weston F.D., No. 25, 17 London Road, Sanderden AL5 2EY, tel: 01582 712865. A Memorial Service will be held at St Albans Abbey on Friday 29th May at 2.30 pm. Most grateful thanks to Dr Peter Harper and all the staff at the Princess Grace Hospital, London.

BLOYE - On May 3rd 1998 Clement David (Clem) of Boscastle, Cornwall, beloved husband of Gwen (deceased), a loving brother and uncle. Deeply loved and cherished by all his family and friends. A Service of Thanksgiving at Forrabury Church, Boscastle on Monday May 11th at 3pm. Family flowers only. If desired donations to Cornwall Air Ambulance by retiring collection or to the Funeral Director Keith Hill & Sons, 13A Fore Street, Camelford, Cornwall.

BRADSHAW - On 3rd May 1998, Margaret (Peg) nee Warner, died peacefully, aged 87 at Fairholme House Bodicote, Banbury, Oxon. Beloved wife of the late Walter Bradshaw. Mourned by surviving brother-in-law John and by many nephews, nieces and friends. Funeral Service to be held at Oxford Crematorium on Tuesday, 12th May at 12 noon.

CARAMAN - Peacefully after a long illness, at Three Acres Country House, Brushford, Somerset, Fr Philip Caraman SJ, aged 86. Requiem Mass at St Stanislaus Church, High Street, Dulverton, Somerset followed by interment at Brushford Churchyard, Brushford, Somerset on Wednesday, May 13th 1998 at 11.30 am. Memorial Mass at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London W1 on Wednesday, May 27th 1998 at 3 pm.

CHEETHAM - (nee Turner), Erika Christine Elizabeth, peacefully in her sleep at home on the night of Saturday the 2nd May 1998 aged 58 years. Beloved mother to Alexander and grandmother to Tara. She will be sorely missed by us all. Funeral on Thursday 14th May 3pm at Saint Mary Abbots Church, Kensington Church Street, London W8. Flowers welcome, donations if desired, to Action Aid and Diabetes Trust Research Fund. All enquiries c/o J.E. Kenyon 0171 9370767.

CLEAVE - Margaret Hyde (Peggy) peacefully on 6th May 1998 aged 91. Widow of Bill Cleave, much loved mother of John and Julia and grandmother of Bernadine, Adam, Joanna, Luley, and Fiona. Family Funeral. No flowers. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Cerne Abbas, Dorset on Tuesday 12th May at 2.30pm. Donations if desired to St Mary's Church.

COLEMAN - Thomas Herbert Gatinskell on 3rd April 1998 at Warwick Hospital late of Stratford upon Avon, former senior partner in solicitors Wright Hassall & Co of Leamington Spa. Private cremation has already taken place.

DOUGLAS-BOYD - Wg. Cdr. J.D. (Dougie) M.B.E. R.A. of High Ercall, Shropshire, on May 3rd 1998 suddenly after an illness borne with characteristic bravery and humour. Adored husband of Mary, father of Jenny and Sue, grandfather of Oliver, Georgie, John and Antonia. Funeral Service with Military Honours 2.30 pm Friday May 15th at St Mary's Church, Shawbury, followed by cremation at Shrewsbury Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations if desired for Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund. Enquiries Williams, Telford, (01952) 505835.

DUNN - On 6th May 1998 peacefully at West Hoxley, Dervish in his 90th year, husband of the late Nettah and father of Alexander. Funeral service at St. Mary's Church, W. Hoxley at 3.15pm. on 14th May. All enquiries to James & Thomas, Funeral Directors, Tel: 01483 284948.

HEATON - On 29th April, 1998 suddenly but peacefully at Burnham Croft Nursing Home, Salisbury, Betty, widow of the late Jack. Funeral Service in Trinity Chapel, Salisbury Cathedral on Thursday 14th May at 12.30pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired may be sent for the Church Mission Society, Partnership House, 157 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8UU.

McLAUGHLAN - On May 6th Mary Eileen (nee Moncrieff) widow of Philip died peacefully in a nursing home. Funeral 2.1 on Tuesday 12th May at St Lawrence, Winchester. Flowers to Jno. Steel, 6 Chesil Street, Winchester. Enquiries Tel: 01722 790606.

MOLESWORTH - Robert Stanley Hickman on May 4th at home after a short illness aged 63. Husband of Ann, father of Catherine, William and Philip. The funeral will be at 2.00 pm at St Mary's Church, Caxton Bedfordshire on May 15th. No flowers please but at Robert's request donations in his memory may be made to Friends of Hazold Surgery Fenches Close, Harrold, Bedford MK43 7DX.

PRICE - Margaret (Marjorie) Jane of Nutfrey, died peacefully in hospital after a short illness on May 5th aged 99. Will be sadly missed by all family and friends. Funeral Service to take place at West Norwood Crematorium on Tuesday May 12th at 3.30 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Rowland Brothers, tel: (0181) 684-1667.

SASSOON BERIAMIN - Irene died peacefully April 30th, beloved mother and grandmother. The funeral will be held on Monday 11th May at 11 am at St Bartholomew the Great. Donations if desired for the Rare Breeds Survival Trust c/o Thomas Cribb FD, 10 Woolwich Manor Way, Beckton, E6 4PA.

SAWYER - Lt. Col. Dunrick (Tom) Sawyer MBE died in Cottesloe, Western Australia on 7th May 1998, formerly a Hotelier of note and renown in the UK. A much loved husband and father who fought a courageous fight against cancer to the end. Funeral privately in Western Australia.

STERRY - Vanetia died peacefully at home at Redmill on 6th May 1998. Dearly loved wife of David, mother of Louise and grandmother of Anouska and Yasmin. Funeral Service to be held at St Mary, Ingestre on 12 noon on Wednesday, 13th May. Family flowers only. Donations to Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund c/o William Emery & Son, 13 County Road, Stafford, tel: (01785) 251205.

TEVERINGTON - James Allen David Woodhouse, fourth Baron Teverington, died peacefully on May 6th at Falkland Hospital, Gloucestershire. No memorial service at his request. Funeral Thursday May 14th, 12.20 pm, Salisbury Crematorium, Wiltshire. No flowers, but if wished donations to Falkland Hospital League of Friends.

WADDINGTON - On 3rd May 1998, suddenly but peacefully at home, George, beloved husband of the late Dorothy and father of Patricia. Enquiries to Stoneman Funeral Service, Redhill. Tel 01737 763456

ZAMBA - Dr Albert (Ret WHO and Colonial Medical Services) much loved husband of Joan, father of Christine and Mark and Nonno of Christopher, Francesca and James. Passed away suddenly but peacefully aged 75 in Geneva on 6th May. Funeral will take place in Malta.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BRISKI - Martin. The memorial stone for Martin Briski will be consecrated at Bushey Jewish Cemetery, Little Bushey Lane, on Sunday 17th May at 10 am.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

HEAL - A Service Of Thanksgiving for the life of Col W.A. Heal will be held at St Mary's Church, Barn Street, Bston Square, London SW1 on Thursday 4th June, 1998 at 3 pm. No mourning please.

HOFFMAN - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Michael P. Hoffman will be held at St. Peter's Church, Eaton Square, London SW1 on Thursday 4th June, 1998 at 3 pm. No mourning please.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Annual General Meeting of the Royal Naval Lay Readers' Society will be held in the Portsmouth Royal Sailors Home Club on Tuesday 12 May, 1998 at 1400, and will be preceded by a Eucharist in St Ann's Church (the Royal Navy Parish Church) at 1215. Lunch will be served in the Home Club Anon 1300.

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OBITUARIES

LORD CRAIGMYLE

Lord Craigmyle, former President of the British Association of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, died on April 30 aged 74 He was born on November 17, 1923.


SNOWDON/CAMERA PRESS

The 3rd Baron Craigmyle was one of Britain's most prominent and philanthropic Roman Catholic laymen. A convert, he allied the practicality which was the heritage of his Scottish Presbyterian upbringing with a deep piety and astonishing personal generosity, to the great benefit of the numerous causes he supported.

In 1993 Craigmyle's charitable activities, which included the presidency of the British Association of the Knights of Malta from 1989 to 1995, were recognised by the Vatican in his appointment as Knight Commander with Star of the Order of Pius IX.

Born to considerable wealth (his maternal grandfather was chairman of P & O), Craigmyle died somewhat less wealthy, in part as a direct result of his charitable instincts. Yet there was nothing ostentatious about his generosity. Craigmyle was a profoundly shy man who felt particularly at home with the sick and disadvantaged.

This empathy, which owed much to a long and ultimately successful struggle with alcoholism, was easily reciprocated; Craigmyle was completely devoid of snobbery. To the down-and-outs ministered to by the St Thomas Fund for the Homeless in Brighton, of which he was president, he was known simply as "Jock".

On one occasion, a local bishop visited St Thomas's to be confronted by a well-dressed selection of residents, who had benefited from donations from Craigmyle's wardrobe. Thinking he was being introduced to local dignitaries, the bishop asked: "But where are the residents?" At the same function, a homeless man approached Craigmyle to ask how long he had been staying in the hostel.

Thomas Donald Mackay Shaw was the eldest son of Alexander Shaw, later the 2nd Baron Craigmyle, and his wife Margaret, a daughter of the 1st Earl of Inchcape. Donald Shaw, as he was known before his succession to the title in 1944, was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Oxford, where he read history. During the Second World War he joined the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve as an ordinary seaman, and insisted on living on his naval rating's pay despite his considerable personal wealth. He eventually became a sub-lieutenant, but took his seat in the Lords in 1945 in his bell-bottomed uniform.

Craigmyle's maiden speech was an attack on hanging: although he took the Tory whip, he did so with considerable independence. Throughout his parliamentary career, Craigmyle took a particularly active stance in humanitarian and ethical debates, the latter from a fervently "pro-life" perspective.

After the war he spent a period in Calcutta, working for the family firm of Mackinnon Mackenzie. While in India, he met Anthea Rich, daughter of Canon Edward Rich, a High Church Anglican clergyman, whose book *Spiritual Authority in the Church of England* deeply influenced his future son-in-law. The couple married in 1955, and in 1956 Craigmyle followed his wife, who had converted three years previously, into the Roman Catholic Church, joining her father, who had taken the same route the previous week.

The middle period of Craigmyle's life was marred by various unsuccessful business ventures, including an initially reluctant involvement in the Red Duster yachting syndicate, which attempted to mount a British challenge for the America's Cup.

It was during the last third of his life that Craigmyle launched himself into charitable works, an arena in which he finally found himself. His work in this field included a position on the board of management of the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth in St John's Wood, with particular involvement in the hospice department, and active service from 1966 to 1972 in the Paddington branch of St John Ambulance, where he acquired an unexpected knowledge of contemporary films through repeatedly sitting on duty on the steps of local cinemas.

Craigmyle was an enthusiastic participant in the annual pilgrimage of the Knights of Malta to Lourdes, and from 1993 to the time of his death he was president of the Catholic Union, a lay body monitoring government activity. His charitable works were complemented by a shrewd involvement in the business side of fundraising. In 1959 he founded Craigmyle and Co with an old school friend, and under his chairmanship the firm grew into Britain's most successful and longest established fundraising consultancy.

In private, Craigmyle exhibited a dry wit, and a particular gift for mimicry. A keen athlete in his youth, he was an accomplished piper (an activity which demonstrated his pride in his Scottish heritage) and a devoted baker.

He is survived by three sons (a fourth predeceased him) and three daughters. His eldest surviving son, Thomas, succeeds him to the title.

GERAINT JONES

Geraint Jones, organist and conductor, died on May 3 aged 80. He was born on May 16, 1917.

TOWARDS the end of his life, Geraint Jones was best known as a conductor. However, until an accident made posture at a console too difficult, he was one of the most brilliant organists of his generation, one held in the highest regard by his colleagues. Those whose memories go back as far as the war may remember his artistry as a harpsichordist at the National Gallery concerts, then his complete cycle of Bach's organ music in the course of 16 recitals in 1945-46. Younger musicians have much cause for gratitude to him at the start of their careers for his generous encouragement through the Kirckman Concert Society he directed from 1963.

Geraint Iwan Jones was born in Porth, Glamorgan, the son of a Welsh minister. Brought up with musical strictness, he early acquired a sound keyboard technique and went on to study at the Royal Academy of Music. His debut came when Myra Hess invited him to play at the National Gallery in 1940, and he quickly created an impressive reputation through his recitals and broadcasts.

In 1947 he toured Germany, making some records on the famous 1687 Schnitger organ at Steinkirchen. Subsequent broadcasts on other important European organs did much to awaken interest in the Baroque organ at a time when public taste still lay with later, larger instruments. This would not have been possible without Jones's wide-ranging musicianship and acute historical sense.

In 1951 his skills were further recognised when Bernard Miles founded the original Mermaid Theatre in the garden of his London house and staged Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*. Miles's friend Kirsten Flagstad agreed to sing Dido, with a distinguished cast including Maggie Teyte, Thomas Hemsley and Edith Coates. Jones directed from the harpsichord. It was typical of him that the performances should have been in his own edition, in impeccable style and of very



high quality (a gramophone record is still in the catalogue). It was also typical of his irreverent humour that he should have tested the composure of his fellow-musicians by inserting sly allusions to other pieces of highly unsuitable music into his continuo accompaniments.

From these performances arose the Geraint Jones Singers and Orchestra, which he conducted with much success. Their concerts helped to widen the enjoyment of the Baroque repertory, and their records included the Italian version of Gluck's *Alceste*, with Flagstad once more in the title role. His cycle of 12 Bach concerts and recitals in the Festival Hall in 1955 was the beginning of an annual series that lasted for more than 30 years, and he was a regular soloist at the Proms. He also toured widely, and gave violin and harpsichord recitals with his second wife, Winifred Roberts.

In 1963 Jones founded the Kirckman Concert Society in order to provide a platform for outstanding young artists. These included Stephen Kovacevic, Mitsuko Shirai, Hartmut Holl and the Emperor String Quartet, all of whom gathered to pay tribute to him at his 80th birthday concert in the Wigmore Hall nearly a year ago, while Winifred Roberts came out of retirement to play a Mozart sonata with Kovacevic.

Jones was also artistic director of the Lake District Festival from 1960 to 1978, and it was while travelling to this that he was thrown from his car and suffered the severe back injuries that were to plague him for the rest of his life. He was also the director of the Salisbury Festival, 1972-77, and the Manchester International Organ Festival, 1977-78.

Although his interests centred on the musical Baroque, Jones was also a passionate connoisseur of Baroque architecture and a considerable expert on 18th-century furniture. However, his repertory did not exclude such demanding 19th-century virtuoso pieces as Liszt's huge organ fantasias. He was also in demand as a designer of organs, most recently the one for the Hong Kong Arts Centre. His generous and warm personality made him widely popular as well as admired in the musical profession, especially by generations of grateful students.

He is survived by his second wife Winifred, whom he married in 1949, and by his daughter.

SIR ALAN GLYN

Sir Alan Glyn, Conservative MP for Clapham, 1959-64, and for Windsor (later Windsor and Maidenhead), 1970-92, died on May 4 aged 79. He was born on September 26, 1918.



IN THE Commons Sir Alan Glyn was as conventional as they come, a party loyalist who had right-wing views on abortion and capital punishment, and was noted largely for his anxiety to give his views as often as the Speaker would allow. Outside Westminster, however, he was a traveller in the John Buchan mould. He was injured during the Hungarian insurrection, provided first aid as a doctor for victims of grenade and rocket fire in Vietnam, and served with the Foreign Legion in Algeria observing military operations, this by special permission of the French Government. He believed the only way for a politician to find out about a country was to visit it. The prospect of trouble only seemed to encourage him. He was a solider, a physician and a barrister in turn, as well as a politician.

Alan Glyn went to school at Westminster and then to Caius College, Cambridge, to read Natural Sciences — he was the son of a successful barrister — and had just started his medical studies when he left to join the Scots Greys as a trooper. He was commissioned within a year, served in the Royal Horse Guards, served in the Far East from 1942 to 1946 and was demobilised as a brigade major after passing through the Staff College.

He qualified as a doctor in 1948 but after he had practised for a few years as a GP his thoughts turned to his father's profession and he was called to the Bar in 1956. Then he moved into yet another field when he was adopted as Conservative candidate for Clapham. This was a highly marginal seat — it had been won by Labour by 225 at the previous election in 1955 — and even though 1959 was the year of Harold Macmillan's triumph, Glyn did well to capture it by nearly 2,000.

By 1964, however, the seat predictably came back to Labour, though Glyn managed to keep the majority to 556 in a four-cornered contest. Wisely he did not stay but moved to Windsor, which he won with a five-figure majority in 1970 and where he never had to worry about his political future again — except for an awkward moment in 1986 when there was an unsuccessful bid to secure a younger MP.

Glyn proved a first-class constituency MP. He fought against the noise from aircraft on the Heathrow flightpath and from the Windsor pop festival. Former employees of the Royal Household found him assiduous in protecting them from rent rises. Unscrupulous car salesmen and bad nursing homes were also attacked.

Outside the House he travelled extensively. In addition to his more adventurous forays he went on comparatively peaceful visits to the West Bank, to Cyprus and Cuba. He visited several Asian countries in addition to Vietnam and was for a long time chairman of his party's Asian Affairs Committee. He was a tireless member of other international committees, serving as chairman of the British-Danish, British-Swedish, British-Mongolian and British-Indonesian Parliamentary Groups and he was vice-chairman of the British-Singapore, British-Tunisian, British-Peruvian and British-Venezuelan Parliamentary Groups.

But in the Commons he never travelled beyond the back benches. His international interests seemed too widely spread. There was also the fact that the whips could depend on his loyalty but not always on his vote. His attendance in the division lobbies was often well below their expectations. This was in contrast to his attendance in the chamber, where he rose often, a tall, distinguished figure, still stooped as a result of his 1956 injury in Hungary, advancing traditional views on the family, and in international affairs arguing consistently against any weakness towards communism.

Glyn, who was knighted in 1990, was married in 1962 to Lady Rosula Windsor Clive, a daughter of the 2nd Earl of Plymouth, who survives him with two daughters.

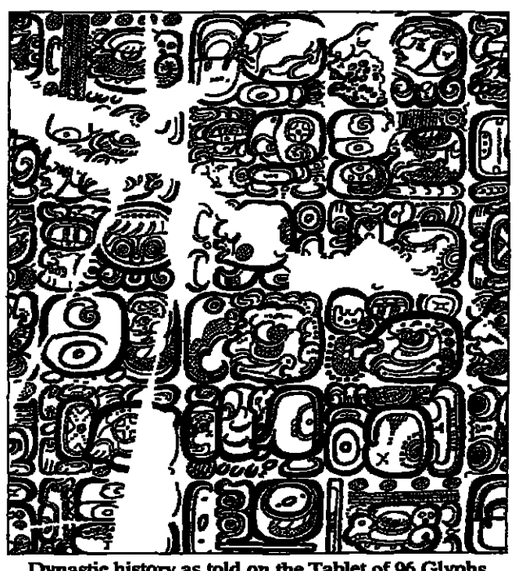
PROFESSOR LINDA SCHELE

Professor Linda Schele, Maya epigrapher, died of cancer on April 18 aged 55. She was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on October 30, 1942.

MAYA hieroglyphic writing from Central America was almost the last of the ancient scripts to be deciphered. Champollion and Rawlinson cracked the codes of Egyptian hieroglyphs and Mesopotamian cuneiform more than 150 years ago, but this most complex of New World writing systems proved especially obdurate. The glyphs themselves, exotic in their calligraphy, were among the most striking things noted by early explorers when the jungle cities of Guatemala and Mexico were brought to light in the 1840s, but it was more than a century before they were understood.

Epigraphers, led by the late Sir Eric Thompson, argued that they recorded esoteric Maya rituals, each glyph being a logograph embodying an idea. But by 1960, Yurii Knorosov had demonstrated that the hieroglyphs were phonetic, encoding spoken Mayan, and Tatiana Proskouriakoff had shown that the dates on the monuments recorded the accessions and deaths of petty kings. Into this changing field Linda Schele brought the perceptions of a creative artist to bear on an elaborate script in which iconography and verbal expression were so intertwined that writing was inescapably an art.

"I visited Palenque in 1970 and fell in love with, and became obsessed by, that beautiful city," she noted in her first major book, *Maya Glyphs: The Verbs* (1982). Palenque has some of the finest quality stone in the entire Maya area and its sculptors of the 7th and 8th centuries exploited this to the full, creating huge panels of human and supernatural figures to complement the dynastic texts.



Dynastic history as told on the Tablet of 96 Glyphs (AD 783) from Palenque, Mexico, drawn by Linda Schele, who helped towards the cracking of the code

From these in 1973 Schele and Peter Matthews identified the successive rules of the city for two centuries beginning with Pakal (AD 615-683). A subsequent study identified Pakal's ancestors, carved on the sides of his massive sarcophagus, buried deep under the Temple of the Inscriptions.

Schele's talents were swiftly recognised with a fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks, then in 1981 a chair at the University of Texas at Austin, where she established one of the most influential centres for the study of the Maya in America. In 1977 she and Nancy Troike held a workshop in Austin on Maya writing which grew into an annual ten-day extravaganza, stimulating numerous publications by both professional and amateur Mayanists. The final meeting was held this March, when Schele, anticipating her own death from pancreatic cancer, made her emotional farewell.

Maya Glyphs: The Verbs won an award for "the most creative and innovative project in professional and scholarly publication" from the Association of American Publishers: Schele had put it together herself in one of the first attempts to use a computer in desktop publishing, helped by her architect husband, David, and updating as she went to take in new inscriptions and interpretations.

Schele's subsequent books were equally notable: in 1986, she and Mary Ellen Miller organised an exhibition, *The Blood of Kings: Dynasty and Ritual in Maya Art*, which rather than just another celebration of Maya virtuosity was deliberately didactic.

The accompanying catalogue was recognised as a major scholarly work but aroused controversy, partly because many of the objects on show had been looted and were borrowed from collectors who had acquired them on the illicit art market, bereft of their archaeological context. Further controversy came with Schele's following books, *A Forest of Kings* (1990, with David Freidel) and *Maya Cosmos* (1993, with Freidel and Joy Parker).



Although ostensibly for a general readership, both presented an enormous amount of iconographic and epigraphic data in support of dramatically presented arguments about the nature of Maya kingship and cosmology.

Many felt that hard facts, legitimate speculations and outright fantasies were so seamlessly blended that only specialist scholars could tell which was which.

Linda Schele was happy to argue with anybody and speak to almost any audience. Her ebullient presence and broad Southern accent endeared her even to those who rejected her ideas and ethics. Over the past decade, she had helped to organise workshops on ancient Maya writing for modern Maya people in Mexico and Guatemala, some of whom are now involved in deciphering the inscriptions of their ancestors. This she regarded as among her most important contributions to Maya studies.

This month Guatemala was to have awarded her its highest honour, the Order of Quetzal. She is survived by her husband.

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"THE MOST DAMNABLE INVENTION."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I have just come in from visiting some of our men in a clearing hospital at the front who have been "gassed" by this latest and most damnable invention of the German Imperial Staff, of which the Kaiser is the head. A more cruel and diabolical method of conducting war it would be impossible to conceive.

If the gas used merely knocked the men out for the time being, so that the Germans could walk over their unconscious bodies with impunity, it would be a sufficiently cowardly method of making war; but when it kills men by a slow and torturing death, no language that I am master of can express what I am convinced every man, woman, or child would feel who saw what I have seen of the obvious agonies of great, fine, healthy men and lads under the ghastly effects of this poisonous gas.

There in that one clearing hospital were scores of men (and they only a small percentage of the total number who had been "gassed") suffering in varying degrees from suffocation — the worst cases fighting desperately for every breath in ghastly pain, and many of them had been going through this torture for days.

Every doctor in the place had tried every possible means of counteracting this cruel poison, but without avail; they could do nothing either to relieve the pain or save the life; they just had to stand by and watch the men who had gone out to fight cleanly and die if need be for their King and country, lying there slowly dying in agony. No atrocities which have so far been committed by those brutes can compare to this latest devilish contrivance; the only thing which can be said for it is that it has shown up as nothing else could the sort of principles which actuate the military authorities of the nation against which we are fighting. If now, at last, these sufferings of some of the most gallant fellows that have ever stepped this earth cannot rouse England and the Empire to unite together as one man to teach the German nation such a lesson as they will never forget, then God knows what will.

There is only one way to counter this sort of devilry and avenge the lives of the men who have thus been murdered, and that is for the Empire to concentrate its whole energies to supply every man and every legitimate munition of war that is necessary to smash this enemy, and that, too, right away, without one week's unnecessary delay.

I am yours &c.,
MICHAEL FURSE, Bishop of Pretoria.

ON THIS DAY

May 8, 1915

Strong words from a South African bishop in the first recorded account of the use of poison gas in war.

NEWS

Volkswagen beats BMW to Rolls

■ Volkswagen was poised last night to take control of Rolls-Royce after "gazumping" BMW, which thought last week it had a deal sewn up. The surprise about-face means that the ultimate symbol of British craftmanship will now be controlled by the company designed to produce the successor to Hitler's People's Car ..... Page 1

Race row puts rugby tours in doubt

■ Three of the four home rugby unions are set to withdraw from their scheduled tours to South Africa this summer after Louis Luyt, the controversial head of the South African Rugby Football Union, refused to step down over allegations of racism at a chaotic meeting in Johannesburg. South African rugby now faces isolation, reminiscent of the days of apartheid, and "mass action" disrupting local games ..... Pages 1, 16

Euro deal row

Fresh doubts clouded the EU's deal over the euro bank when Wim Duisenberg said he might serve a full eight-year term and attacked as absurd the EU's promise that his job would go to a Frenchman in 2002 ..... Page 1

Right to say 'no'

A woman's right to refuse medical help even when doctors fear that she and her unborn child might die was enshrined by the Court of Appeal ..... Pages 1, 6

Cash for victims

Tony Blair pledged millions of pounds for Northern Ireland's victims of violence, leading opponents to accuse him of "buying" the May 22 referendum ..... Page 2

Tourist murdered

The widow of a British tourist who was killed on holiday in Kenya told a court how two men wrestled her husband to the ground and stabbed him ..... Page 5

Banned from church

Church of England leaders have barred a convicted paedophile from services. Michael Cope has been ordered never to visit any church when young people might be present ..... Page 8

Sex disease survey

Young women and their sexual partners are to be screened to detect cases of a disease that may lead to infertility, miscarriage and chronic pain ..... Page 9

Teacher vindicated

A senior master at England's oldest Roman Catholic school was wrongly sacked after sharing cider and sympathy with a girl pupil, a tribunal ruled ..... Page 12

Paedophile jailed

A British paedophile who lured Thai boys to uninhabited tropical islands was jailed for 33 years in Thailand ..... Page 13

Arms minister

Tony Lloyd, the Foreign Office Minister at the centre of allegations about arms to Sierra Leone, was under increasing pressure after he gave MPs inaccurate information ..... Page 15

Radioactive trains

French trains transporting nuclear waste across Europe to a reprocessing plant on the Channel coast have been suspended after tests showed them to be contaminated ..... Page 18

Mudslide inquests

As rescuers searched for more bodies in the wake of the huge mudslides in Italy that have killed at least 54, the nation began to count the cost of the corruption that critics say lie behind the disaster ..... Page 19

PoW escape story

A tattered journal that tells the tale of an American pilot's escape from the Japanese during the Second World War has sparked a publishing bidding battle ..... Page 20

Labour peer sued for 'gazumping'

■ Two barristers are suing the Labour peer Lord Hamlyn because they claim they were gazumped over their attempt to buy his listed house in Hammersmith, West London. Jonathan Ferris and Deborah Bangay say that their £765,000 bid for the house had been accepted but now they had been told that an offer nearly £200,000 higher was being considered ..... Page 3



ARTHUR EDWARDS

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh being driven in a London taxi which has been converted to liquid gas for their use. Page 1

BUSINESS

Merger savings: Daimler-Benz and Chrysler envisage savings of around £850 million in the first year. They said no factories will be closed or jobs lost ..... Page 29

Sterling down: The pound fell sharply after the Monetary Policy Committee left base rates unchanged at 7.25, despite expectations of higher rates as governments prop up the euro ..... Page 29

More time: Thomson Travel Group is looking at ways to help private investors who missed the noon deadline when applying for TTG's £1.7 billion flotation because of problems at share shops ..... Page 29

Markets: The FTSE 100 fell 54.4 to 5,938.0. The pound fell to 103.4, falling 1.58 cents to $1.6460 and 2.97 pfennig to DM2.9032 ..... Page 32

SPORT

Football: Glenn Hoddle, the England coach, called for a quick resolution by the FA to the controversy over Alan Shearer's challenge on Neil Lennon ..... Page 56

Cricket: Wasim Akram, the Lancashire captain, scored an unbeaten 89 off 43 balls as they beat Nottinghamshire by 58 runs in the Benson and Hedges Cup ..... Page 52

Rugby union: Francois Pienaar will play for Saracens in the Tetley's Bitter Cup final against Wasps despite a damaged hamstring that keeps him short of full fitness ..... Page 53

Equestrianism: Daisy Dick held a slender 0.8 point lead on Headley Bravo after the first day of dressage at the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials ..... Page 54

ARTS

Richard Morrison: "Something deep in the psyche responds to an irrational task of epic proportions" — Bath's Scarlatti marathon and other daft enterprises ..... Page 37

Pop 1: Caitlin Moran is deeply depressed by the FA's choice of World Cup anthem; plus the fall and rise of Eddi Reader after Fairground Attraction ..... Page 38

Pop 2: David Sinclair reviews the week's top pop albums and is bowled over by the cool chemistry and craft of Scottish/American band Garbage ..... Page 39

Organ master: To celebrate the 90th anniversary of the birth of Olivier Messiaen, all of his stupendously difficult organ music is to be played at Westminster Cathedral ..... Page 40

FEATURES

Summer mystery: Why is buying a new bathing costume somehow not quite as much fun as one feels it ought to be? Jane Shilling ponders a shopping mystery ..... Page 22

Tory troubles: John Major and Margaret Thatcher drove John Redwood to distraction, Hywel Williams reveals in the final extract from his book ..... Page 23

MEDIA

Lobby secrets: The world of the Whitehall lobbyist ..... Page 41

Ad break: Advertisers are only just waking up to the fact that digital broadcasting will make viewers and listeners more selective about commercials ..... Page 43

EDUCATION

Adding up: The case for a structured mathematics curriculum in British schools ..... Page 47

Schools abroad: As mobility of labour in Europe rises, English schools overseas are providing havens of stability ..... Page 47

THE PAPERS

The Israeli Prime Minister is in a Catch-22 situation. He can neither allow the terrorist movement of the Palestinians to succeed nor can he give more land to the Palestinians. Any concession would encourage renewed unrest among the dissatisfied sections of Cabinet hardliners — *The Hindustan Times*

RADIO & TV

Preview: Vincent Regan plays an RAF pilot who shoots down a spacecraft: *Invasion: Earth* (BBC1, 9.30pm). **Review:** Paul Hoggart on a miracle cure ..... Pages 54, 55

OPINION

Cooked up

Robin Cook has the lawyer's killer instinct and the leftwinger's zeal. Not for the first time, he has failed to keep them under control. This time in Sierra Leone, the result may be wrongful damage to upright officials and to Britain's good name ..... Page 25

Sins and sinners

For those with authority to demonise certain classes of criminal, and suggest that they, rather than their offences, are *intrinsically* repulsive is to license witch-finders ..... Page 25

Desert island diners

At least no one forced the pickers of desert island discs to choose their eight favourite vegetables ..... Page 25

COLUMNS

MATTHEW PARRIS

The anger begins seeping into *Guilty Men* at the beginning, floods through its pages as the story continues, saturates the text, drowns the argument and leaves readers with only one wretched conclusion: the Tory Right have gone plumb crazy ..... Page 24

JOHN LLOYD

Tony Blair is the first wholly postmodern party leader. That is, he brings to his tasks no coherent "ism", save "newness" or modernity defined as efficiency, common sense and goodwill ..... Page 24

PHILIP HOWARD

The question of what should go under the Millennium Dome has come home to roost as the reply to the unanswerable question: "Which came first, the chicken or the egg? ..... Page 24

OBITUARIES

Lord Craigmyle, philanthropist; **Sir Alan Glyn**, former Conservative MP; **Geraint Jones**, organist and conductor; **Professor Linda Schele**, epigrapher ..... Page 27

LETTERS

Euro; cancer charities; drug strategy; setting women free; Anthony Blunt; fat lawyers ..... Page 25

LOTTERY NUMBERS

6, 7, 14, 19, 22, 27. Bonus: 9



TOMORROW

IN THE SATURDAY TIMES

■ TAKE THREE BOYS
The trio of young British actors taking the screen by storm

■ STRIKING OUT
Oliver Holt interviews Alan Shearer

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,786



ACROSS

1 What's fought over in Amazon territory? (2,4,4).
6 Book of plays (4).
10 Settlers losing an unknown amount of foreign money (5).
11 Reserve coach introduced to the others (9).
12 Frequency of occurrence is falling, on the surface (9).
13 A part of North Sea flooded (5).
14 Henry caught that bird (7).
15 All the fuel one can carry lets husband leave with relief (7).
17 Produce the cut stroke, perhaps, for a bad bowler (7).
19 AB or two could manoeuvre this (7).
21 Sort of Italian horse carrying Frenchman (5).
23 Plan for gaining weight (9).
24 Showing skilfulness and ease in speaking, one should get the post (9).
25 Typical university in America gets left behind (5).
26 It's just possible lady takes no notice (4).
27 Restrictive practice brought about cessation of trade (6,4).

DOWN

1 French resort — one quiet, and quite pleasant (7).
2 In tiny pieces, fish gets caught up in tooth (9).
3 Sensational story — deny with radio news broadcast after noon (4,4,6).
4 Eyeglass that's not paired — nor long, possibly (7).
5 Beginning to develop, sent up an aroma (7).
7 Country in which I naturally settled (5).
8 Talc she sprinkled in bag (7).
9 Use shares to make innovations? (5,3,6).
16 Antipodean bird — an amphibian, say (9).
17 Storm — to sailors, trouble (7).
18 Rest of paroles broken (7).
19 Upset over US prisons, makes a fresh start (7).
20 It helps racing cyclist to surpass all bar the last two (3,4).
22 Gong — interfere with its sound (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 56

Solution to Puzzle No 20,785

T	A	S	T	E	B	U	D		F	I	N	I	S	H
	H		A		E		S		O		I		C	
D	E	L	I	G	H	T	F	U	L		G	O	O	N
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Full moon May 11
London 8.35 pm to 5.19 am
Bristol 8.44 pm to 5.29 am
Edinburgh 9.05 pm to 5.13 am
Manchester 8.51 pm to 5.19 am
Penzance 8.52 pm to 5.45 am

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Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

FORECAST

☐ **General:** northern England and north Wales will be bright after a damp start. Southwest parts of England and Wales will be cloudy but the rest of England will have sunny spells. Northern Ireland and west Scotland will have light rain. East Scotland will be dry, with drizzle later.

☐ **London, SE, E England, E Anglia, E&W Midlands:** sunny spells after cloud; small chance of late shower. Light S wind. Max 22C (72F).

☐ **Cent S England, Channel Is:** warm sunshine after early cloud. Light S breeze. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **SW England, S Wales:** sunny spells developing across all but far west. Light S wind. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lakes, IoM:** damp start but gradually brightening. Light S wind. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Cent N, NE England:** patchy drizzle, then hazy sunshine. Moderate SW wind. Max 18C (64F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth:** chance of rain, but generally dry. Moderate SW wind. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** outbreaks of rain, drier later. Moderate S to SW wind. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NE, NW Scotland, Northern Isles:** good sunny spells, risk of rain later. Moderate SW wind. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** rain, then brighter from south. Wind S, moderate. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Outlook:** tomorrow E England will be dry and warm with thundery showers possible later. On Sunday more widespread thunderstorms are likely.

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.2	0.05	15	59	c	Jersey	3.2	0.01	18	64	s
Anglesey	2.5	0.03	13	55	b	Kinloss	7.0	0.07	15	59	b
Aspatria	1.7	0.26	13	55	d	Leeds	1.7	0.02	16	61	c
Aviemore	6.3	0.08	13	55	r	Lerwick	4.8	0.24	8	46	r
Belfast	0.5	0.21	13	55	r	Leuchars	3.5	0.33	15	59	sh
Birmingham	0.7	0.01	14	57	c	Littlehmptn	0.7	-	15	59	s
Bognor R	2.8	-	15	59	b	London	0.3	0.01	16	61	b
Bournem'th	1.4	-	15	59	b	Lowestoft	1.8	-	16	61	b
Bristol	0.9	0.01	15	59	c	Manchester	-	0.05	15	59	c
Buxton	3.0	0.02	14	57	c	Margate	4.7	-	16	61	b
Cardiff	X	0.04	15	59	c	Morecambe	1.7	0.13	15	59	c
Clacton	4.4	0.01	13	55	b	Newcastle	9.3	0.02	17	63	s
Cleethorpes	4.1	-	17	63	b	Norwich	2.0	0.01	16	61	b
Colwyn Bay	5.4	0.04	15	59	b	Oxford	0.8	0.01	15	59	c
Cromer	3.1	0.01	16	61	c	Penzance	X	-	15	59	c
Dunbar	10.0	0.23	17	63	sh	Poole	2.0	-	16	61	c
Eastbourne	3.2	0.01	15	59	b	Prestatyn	X	0.03	16	61	b
Edinburgh	2.8	0.89	15	59	r	Ross on Wye	0.4	0.01	15	59	sh
Eskdalemuir	0.2	0.67	10	50	r	Salcombe	1.1	-	14	57	c
Exmouth	-	0.01	14	57	c	Saunton Snd	-	0.03	14	57	c
Fishguard	-	0.01	13	55	sh	Scarboro'	3.9	0.01	16	61	b
Folkestone	5.2	-	14	57	b	Skegness	0.7	-	16	61	c
Glasgow	1.1	0.86	14	57	r	Southend	0.7	-	15	59	c
Guernsey	4.1	0.01	19	66	s	Southport	X	0.07	16	61	b
Hastings	1.8	-	14	57	b	Southsea	5.1	-	15	59	s
Hayling I.	0.2	0.01	14	57	c	Stornoway	4.6	0.14	11	52	sh
Hove	5.9	-	13	55	s	Swanage	2.6	-	15	59	s
Hunstanton	1.8	-	16	61	c	Teignmouth	0.1	0.01	15	59	c
Isle of Man	2.8	0.15	13	55	r	Tenby	-	0.01	13	55	c
Isle of Wight	1.8	-	13	55	c	Torquay	0.2	0.01	15	59	b

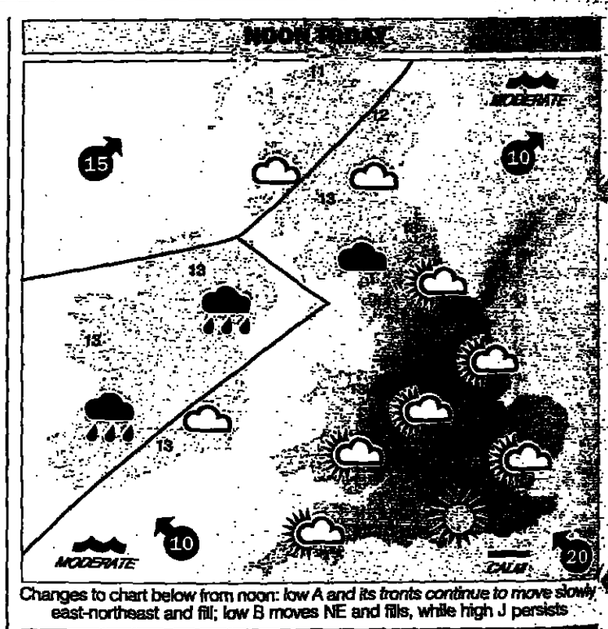
ABROAD

Ajaccio	18	64	s	Cologne	13	55	c	Madrid	18	64	s
Alicatnt	27	81	s	C'phagn	10	50	r	Majorca	20	68	s
Alex'dria	23	73	c	Corfu	19	66	f	Malaga	20	68	s
Algiers	19	66	f	Dublin	13	55	s	Malta	19	66	s
Amst'dam	13	55	c	Dubrovnik	15	59	c	Melb'rne	16	61	c
Athens	21	70	s	Faro	20	68	s	Mexico C	28	82	s
Bahrain	32	90	s	Florence	22	72	s	Miami	30	86	s
Bangkok	37	99	f	Frankfurt	12	54	c	Milan	18	64	c
Barbados	29	84	f	Funchal	18	66	f	Montreal	21	70	s
Barcelona	18	64	s	Geneva	17	63	f	Moscow	19	66	c
Beijing	22	72	c	Gibraltar	20	68	s	Munich	15	59	f
Beirut	28	82	f	Helsinki	9	48	r	Nairobi	18	64	r
Belgrade	17	63	c	Hong K	28	82	f	Naples	17	63	f
Berlin	12	54	r	Innsbruck	16	61	f	N Delhi	37	99	s
Bermuda	22	72	c	Istanbul	18	64	r	N York	16	61	r
Biarritz	15	59	s	Jeddah	40	104	s	Nice	18	64	f
Borde'x	15	59	c	Jo'burg	25	77	s	Oslo	10	50	f
Brussels	12	54	c	L Palmas	21	70	f	Paris	14	57	c
Budapst	17	63	f	Le Touqet	12	54	f	Perth	23	73	s
B Aires	21	70	s	Lisbon	22	72	s	Prague	13	55	r
Cairo	31	88	c	Locarno	13	55	c	Reykjavik	3	37	f
Cape Tn	18	64	c	L Angels	18	64	s	Rhodes	21	70	s
Chicago	23	73	f	Luxembg	11	52	c	Rio de J	24	75	h
Ch'church	12	54	X	Luxor	44	111	s	Riyadh	35	95	s

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Madrid	18	64	s	Rome	18	64	f
Majorca	20	68	s	Salzburg	14	57	r
Malaga	20	68	s	S Fr'isco	14	57	r
Malta	19	66	s	Santiago	17	63	c
Melb'rne	16	61	c	S Paulo	X		
Mexico C	28	82	s	Seoul	27	81	s
Miami	30	86	s	Sing'por	32	90	r
Milan	18	64	c	St'kholm	11	52	b
Montreal	21	70	s	Strasb'rg	16	61	f
Moscow	19	66	c	Sydney	23	73	s
Munich	15	59	f	Tangier	23	73	s
Nairobi	18	64	r	Tel Aviv	35	95	s
Naples	17	63	f	Tenerife	23	73	s
N Delhi	37	99	s	Tokyo	24	75	s
N York	16	61	r	Toronto	21	70	s
Nice	18	64	f	Tunis	19	66	f
Oslo	10	50	f	Valencia	20	68	s
Paris	14	57	c	Vanc'ver	14	57	c
Perth	23	73	s	Venice	19	66	f
Prague	13	55	o	Vienna	18	64	s
Reykjavik	3	37	f	Warsaw	15	59	f
Rhodes	21	70	s	Wash'ton	13	55	X
Rio de J	24	75	h	Wel'ngton	13	55	X
Riyadh	35	95	s	Zurich	15	59	f

Temperatures at midday local time on Wednesday. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low A and its fronts continue to move slowly east-northeast and fill; low B moves NE and fills, while high J persists

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	12:36	3.7	-	-	Liverpool	10:20	8.3	10:42	8.5
Avonmouth	6:05	11.6	6:31	11.9	London Bridge	-	-	1:39	5.8
Belfast	10:00	3.2	10:37	3.1	Lowestoft	9:06	2.3	8:51	2.2
Cardiff	5:51	10.8	6:17	11.0	Margate	11:25	4.4	11:29	4.5
Devonport	4:33	4.9	5:02	5.0	Milford Haven	5:11	6.0	5:34	6.1
Dover	10:17	5.9	10:36	6.1	Newquay	4:07	6.0	4:29	6.1
Dublin	10:52	3.7	11:15	3.6	Oban	4:51	3.3	5:18	3.4
Falmouth	4:04	4.7	4:33	4.8	Penzance	3:37	4.8	4:01	4.9
Greenock	11:33	3.0	0:17	3.0	Portland	5:23	1.5	6:03	2.9
Harwich	10:58	3.7	11:14	3.6	Portsmouth	10:30	4.0	10:48	4.1
Holyhead	9:32	4.9	9:57	5.0	Shoreham	10:20	5.2	10:41	5.3
Hull (Albert Dj)	5:30	7.5	5:38	7.8	Southampton	9:57	4.0	10:17	4.2
Ilfracombe	4:57	8.0	5:21	8.1	Swansea	5:15	8.3	5:38	8.5
King's Lynn	5:57	5.6	5:41	5.8	Tees	2:22	4.8	2:45	4.9
Leith	1:39	4.8	2:01	4.8	Wilton-On-Naze	10:56	3.9	11:08	3.8

Crown copyright reserved All times GMT. Heights in metres.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 19CC (46F); lowest day max: Lerwick, Shetland, 8C (46F); highest rainfall: Glasgow Airport, 0.90in; highest sunshine: Dunbar, East Lothian, 10.0hr.

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — FRIDAY MAY 8 1998

Sterling slides as Bank puts rates on hold

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S battered manufacturing sector received a double boost yesterday after the Bank of England decided to leave interest rates on hold and the pound slid to its lowest levels this year.

The pound tumbled as speculation continued to grow that Europe is set for a round of interest rate tightening while UK rates have peaked.

Wim Duisenberg, the nominee for the presidency of European Central Bank, added to sterling's general weakness by restating that Britain would need to demonstrate a period of exchange rate stability against the euro before joining the single currency. Analysts interpreted this as evidence that the pound needs to decline towards a "sustainable" rate over the next year.

The pound finished down three pfennigs at DM2.9032 — a four and half month low. On its trade weighted index, sterling declined from 104.4 to 103.4 while the pound also lost over a cent against the dollar to close at $1.6460. Sterling is now 20 pfennigs below the nine year high of DM3.10 it reached last month.

The Bank's decision to leave rates unchanged at 7.25 per cent further undermined the pound. Economists said it reinforced the impression that rates, which have remained unchanged since November, have peaked.

Exporters, however, gave only a muted welcome to the Bank's decision claiming that its reluctance to explicitly state that rates will not rise again maintains some upwards pressure on the pound. A further warning that manufacturers are not yet over the pain of the strong pound came in the latest London Business School economic forecast which predicted the damage already wreaked by the strong pound would push the sector into recession later this year.

The LBS added that the pound was set to fall to DM2.75 by the end of the year while GDP growth would slow to 2.2 per cent before falling to 1.7 per cent in 1999 — leaving the Bank on course for its inflation target.

The Confederation of British Industry's distributive trades survey, which showed a rebound in April retail sales, also did little to dampen expectations that rates have peaked. The balance of retailers reporting sales above this time last year increased from 14 per cent in March to 26 per cent in April.



RICHARD POHLE

Jürgen Schrempp, left, and Robert Eaton will be co-chairmen and co-chief executives after the merger, but Herr Schrempp is expected to take full control in three years' time

Motor giants race to a deal

Daimler and Chrysler agree $92bn merger

BY ADAM JONES

DAIMLER-BENZ and Chrysler are merging to create a $92 billion company called Daimler Chrysler, with predicted savings of at least $1.4 billion (£850 million) in the first year.

Just 24 hours after the companies revealed they were in merger talks, the boards announced that they had reached a final agreement. The largest industrial merger ever was formally announced at the London Arena in Docklands and has the support of major shareholders such as Kirk Kerkorian, the largest Chrysler investor. Daimler Chrysler will be ranked in the top three global carmakers for sales, profits and market capitalisation, the companies said. Pro forma sales after the merger would be $130 billion, with pre-tax profits at $6.9 billion and total assets of $137 billion. Annual savings should be $3 billion within three to five years, the two boards claimed, with the number of employees likely to increase rather than decrease from 421,000.

Initially, Jürgen Schrempp, chairman of Daimler-Benz, and Robert Eaton, chairman of Chrysler, will be co-chairmen and co-chief executives. Mr Eaton will stand down after three years, leaving the way open for Herr Schrempp to take full control. Mr Eaton said: "Unless we aren't quite as successful as we plan, I have no doubt that Jürgen Schrempp will be the sole chairman and CEO."

Daimler Chrysler will be headquartered in both Stuttgart and Auburn Hills, Michigan, but will be incorporated in Germany for tax purposes.

Mr Eaton denied that German involvement would harm sales of Chrysler light trucks, which have benefited from an all-American image: "We have not advertised in that direction for a long time."

The two men refused to put a figure on the administrative cost of merging. Daimler-Benz is being advised by Goldman Sachs and Deutsche Bank, a major shareholder. Chrysler is being advised by Credit Suisse First Boston.

A source close to the deal said that most of the $1.4 billion savings in the first year will come from added purchasing power. He claimed the estimate is conservative.

The companies said there is almost no direct overlap between their products. The Mercedes-Benz range is rooted in luxury saloons, although it has made a recent foray into small and sport utility vehicles. Chrysler specialises in light trucks and cheaper passenger cars. Herr Schrempp believed the only product duplication was the new M-class sport utility vehicle and Chrysler's Grand Cherokee.

Chrysler and Mercedes-Benz dealerships will not sell each other's brands. The two brands could be sold side-by-side in emerging markets such as Asia and Latin America, however, as their separate identities are not so well established. Daimler Chrysler will hope to save money on research and development costs for new vehicles.

Although Daimler-Benz and Chrysler shares again rose yesterday, one analyst said opportunities for savings were hampered by the dealer networks not being merged in the US and Europe.

Commentary, page 31
Biggest prize, page 33

WHY LONDON WAS THE VENUE FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT

THE world's largest industrial merger is between a German group and an American group: some might wonder why it was formally announced in London (Adam Jones writes).

Yesterday afternoon, the London Arena in Docklands, once written off as a white elephant, was the unlikely venue to more than 100 journalists as Daimler-Benz showed off its $92 billion merger with Chrysler to the world's press. Robert Eaton, the Chrysler chairman, said London was chosen for its convenience as a halfway house between the US and continental Europe.

More importantly, he said it showed "that this is an international company". Anglo-Saxon pride will have been further gratified by the news that Daimler Chrysler board meetings will be held in English, but there was enough evidence that the real power lies with the Germans.

The room was kitted out as a near-perfect replica of a Daimler press conference. Unfamiliar with the simultaneous translation equipment — second nature to Daimler executives — Robert Eaton had to let Jürgen Schrempp go solo on some questions. It was, after all, his approach in January that set the deal in motion.

Thomson helps people who missed deadline

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THOMSON TRAVEL is looking at ways to help small investors who missed yesterday's noon deadline when applying for the £1.7 billion flotation shares because of administration problems at share shops.

The huge response to the offer, promoted by Ulrika Jonnson, the television personality, plus errors and mailing problems had disadvantaged investors, the group said.

The Share Centre, one of the appointed brokers, said some customers had driven from Scotland, Folkestone and Cheshire to its offices in Hertfordshire to deliver forms.

Gavin Oldham, director of the Share Centre, said a mistake at a mailing house meant some forms had been sent late.

TTG said: "We want to do everything we can to ensure people who experienced difficulties in receiving information are not penalised." It is thought to be considering extending yesterday's deadline by several hours or allocating a standard shareholding to all applications which came in late.

It will decide this weekend whether to increase the size of the retail offer, currently at 10 per cent of the total.

Commentary, page 31



Ulrika Jonnson: promoted

Treasury orders review of bank advice practices

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

THE Government has ordered an urgent review of banking practices. The move follows a meeting yesterday between the Treasury and David Davis, the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, who has raised serious concerns about bank and building societies' practices of withholding information about higher interest accounts from their customers.

Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said: "I am extremely concerned about evidence of banks not being straightforward in the dealings with their customers. In particular not alerting customers that they could get a better deal with a different account. I have asked my officials to investigate urgently."

The Treasury's action comes in a week when Northern Rock, the recently demutualised bank, fell under increasing attack from customers for changing the interest rates on its postal accounts without notifying all customers. The rate changes disadvantages those with higher balances. Many of the customers were unaware of the changes until *The Times* highlighted the issue.

The Northern Rock claims that it had written to all customers alerting them to the change, in line with a new policy introduced last month, under which savers would be informed of rate changes.

Evidence compiled by Mr Davis, Conservative MP for Haltemprice and Howden, found that the worst offenders for not informing customers about rates were the Northern Rock and Lloyds TSB. Adam Applegarth, Northern Rock executive director, said: "We welcome the move from the economic secretary. Our decision to notify savers anticipated it."

Ms Liddell said: "I will also be talking to the industry to see what can be done to tighten up the Banking Code."

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5938.0	(-54.4)
Yield	2.78%	
FTSE All share	2803.13	(-19.11)
Nikkei	15143.03	(-100.81)
New York:		
Dow Jones	9021.77	(-32.88)*
S&P Composite	1101.34	(-3.58)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	102¹⁵₃₂*	(102¹⁷₃₂)
Yield	5.95%*	(5.94%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7⅛%	(7⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	108¹₄	(108²⁵₃₂)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.6487*	(1.6605)
London:		
$	1.6459	(1.6621)
DM	2.9028	(2.9332)
FFr	9.7324	(9.8381)
SFr	2.4180	(2.4521)
Yen	218.95	(220.62)
£ Index	103.4	(104.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.7634*	(1.7842)
FFr	5.9125*	(5.9170)
SFr	1.4685*	(1.4733)
Yen	133.08*	(133.10)
$ Index	109.4	(109.2)

Tokyo close Yen 133.09

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul).. $15.10 ($14.85)

GOLD

London close..... $298.45 ($300.25)

* denotes midday trading price

AA chief to give away RAC windfall

BY JASON NISSE

JOHN MAXWELL, the chief executive of the Automobile Association, yesterday vowed to give any windfall he receives from the £450 million sale of the AA's arch rival, the Royal Automobile Club Motoring Services, to charity after it emerged that he and his three sons were all members of the RAC.

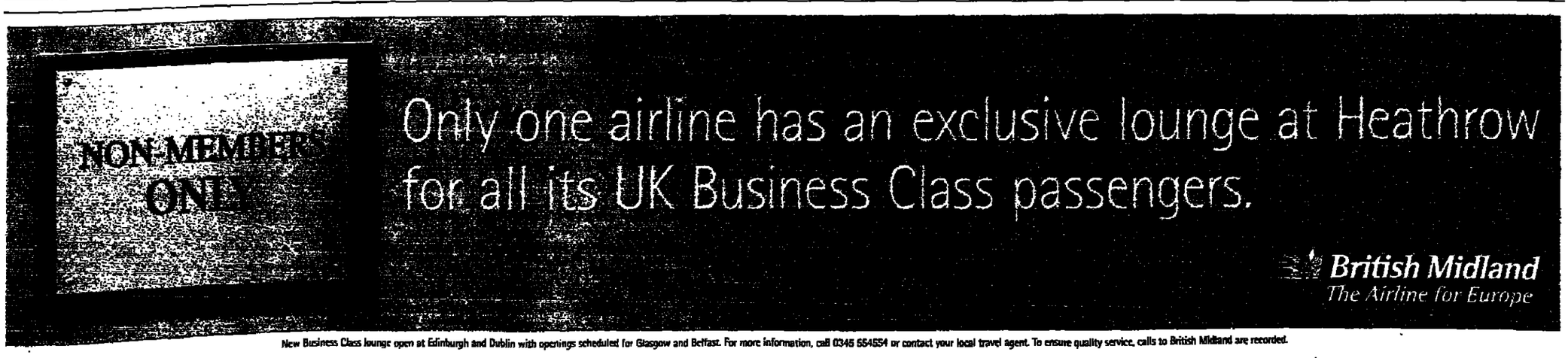
Mr Maxwell said that he was only an honorary member of the RAC — thanks to his position at the AA — and did not realise he would be eligible for a windfall.

However, *The Times* has learnt that he had been a full member of the RAC club in Pall Mall for some years before he was given the honorary membership in December 1996 and is likely to receive the full £35,000 bonus RAC members will get from selling its motorist rescue service to Cendant Corporation. The Maxwell family is in line for £140,000 from the RAC sale.

The AA said yesterday that it had received more than 1,500 calls from RAC members wishing to swap organisations in the wake of the announcement that the RAC is selling out to Cendant, which recently bought Green Flag, the third force in the sector.

The RAC will today hit back at a campaign from the AA that focused on the fact that customers of RAC Motoring Services will receive nothing from the sell-off.

The RAC's advertisements claim a better record than the AA of dealing with roadside motoring problems.



New Business Class lounge open at Edinburgh and Dublin with openings scheduled for Glasgow and Belfast. For more information, call 0345 554554 or contact your local travel agent. To ensure quality service, calls to British Midland are recorded.

RBS eases City fears with £448m at half time

By Marianne Curphey

SHARES in Royal Bank of Scotland rose 51½p to 933½p yesterday after the bank calmed City fears about its debts in Asia and the quality of its lending in the UK.

Unveiling better than expected interim profits, George Mathewson, the bank's group chief executive, said he was "relaxed" over RBS's £630 million bid for Birmingham Midshires Building Society, which has been trumped by a £780 million offer from Halifax.

Birmingham Midshires has put forward proposals designed to extricate itself from an exclusivity agreement signed with RBS last year, which expires in December.

Dr Mathewson said discussions were continuing and RBS had set aside £6 million to cover the costs of the bid so far. He said: "I do not feel under pressure and my decision will be driven by what is best for our shareholders." Analysts said they now doubted that Midshires would ever become part of RBS. Dr Mathewson claimed that the values of mortgage banks had fallen substantially since Halifax made its surprise bid on March 9 and said he felt that the prospect of further hostile bid activity in the building society sector had waned, but merger activity was likely. Halifax responded by saying that the benefit of its bid was the "strategic and economic fit" between the two companies.

RBS, where Viscount Younger of Leckie is chairman, and Bob Speirs finance director, unveiled pre-tax profit for the six months to March 31, before exceptionals, up 21 per cent to £411 million (£341 million) and pre-tax profit up 21 per cent to £448 million (£369 million). The group made a £53 million provision to cover its exposure to Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand. Total exposure to these countries was £605 million at March 31, representing less than 1 per cent of assets.

The results included a strong contribution from Citizens Financial Group in the US, where profit grew 30 per cent to £108 million. The UK contributed a profit, before provisions, of £461 million, an increase of 25 per cent. RBS set aside £5 million provision for credit card debt and £5 million for financial retail services including Direct Line Financial Services and its joint venture with Tesco, which is not expected to make a profit for another two years.

Direct Line, the direct telephone insurer, increased pre-tax profit by £2 million to £10 million and said the effects of the winter storms were mitigated by milder weather across the six-month period. The company's core motor insurance business held steady at 2.1 million policyholders.

PETER TREVNOR



Bob Speirs, left, Lord Younger and George Mathewson of the RBS yesterday

News Corp profits boosted by Titanic

By Raymond Snoddy
Media Editor

THE success of *Titanic*, the Oscar-winning film, has helped to raise The News Corporation's third-quarter operating profits by 10 per cent to $319 million (£190 million) before abnormal items.

The film has already grossed $1.1 billion internationally and HarperCollins, News Corp's publishing subsidiary, has sold more than 625,000 hardback and paperback copies of James Cameron's *Titanic*.

News Corp, parent company of *The Times*, said the 127 per cent gain in third-quarter operating profit of Fox Filmed Entertainment had been particularly impressive because the comparable period last year included strong results from *Independence Day* video sales and the release of the *Star Wars* trilogy.

Operating revenues rose by 11 per cent to $3.2 billion and earnings before interst, tax and depreciation were up by 22 per cent to $542 million. Earnings per ADR before abnormal items fell from $0.33 in the same quarter last year to $0.32 this time.

Abnormal items accounted for a net loss of $51 million and included charges related to the Australian Super League and a loss on early retirement of debt partly offset by gains on the sale of a stake in The Seven Network in Australia.

In the UK *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* gained circulation but *The Sun* fell to 3.77 million copies a day from four million last year and "in addition to the overall market decline, higher editorial and printing costs slightly reduced operating profit contributions below year-ago levels".

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Market concern at Indonesian unrest

ASIAN financial markets endured another nervous day of trading yesterday as continuing civil unrest in Indonesia raised the prospect that President Suharto could renege on the rescue plan backed by the International Monetary Fund. The Indonesian rupiah went into free-fall in early trading, at one point falling below the level of 10,000 to the dollar, and leading some analysts to caution that the country was on the verge of triggering a second regional crisis. Only intervention by the Indonesian Central Bank, which raised a number of key interest rates, managed to restore some calm to the markets with the rupiah closing at 9,600, compared with 8,850 on Wednesday.

Analysts expressed concern that President Suharto's decision to visit Egypt next week could further destabilise the country. Sentiment was further damaged when London insurers decided to add Indonesia to a list of countries considered a war risk. The Jakarta stock exchange, however, closed up 5 per cent as traders took advantage of arbitrage opportunities in dual listed stocks after the currency fall.

Prudential 'fell short'

SIR MARTIN JACOMB, chairman of Prudential, told shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting that the company "fell a long way short of what was acceptable, both to ourselves and the regulator" in mis-selling pensions during the Nineties. He said that the issue had clouded Prudential's 1997 performance and the company took responsibilty for its mistakes. He said that pensions review would not reduce bonuses paid to policyholders or statutory profits because they would be met from the life funds free estate.

Telewest confirmation

TELEWEST, the UK's second largest cable company, confirmed yesterday that it is likely to exercise its rights to buy complete control of Birmingham Cable and Cable London from Comcast. Telewest has pre-emption rights over the Comcast stakes in the two ventures in the event of the completion of the planned merger of Comcast and NTL. In the first quarter Telewest, which is acquiring General Cable, more than doubled profits to £25.8 million before interest, tax and depreciation. Revenue rose 22 per cent to £110.4 million.

Blakes' shares fall

SHARES in Blakes Clothing, the AIM-listed retailer, fell 2½p to 47½p yesterday after the group announced a fall in pre-tax profits from £1.04 million to £813,000 in the year to January 31. The group's tax charge, however, fell leaving earnings up from 6.9p to 9.3p. Sales rose 18 per cent to £10.7 million. A final maiden dividend of 1.0p a share will be paid. The board was not anticipating an increase in profits during the current year, largely because of the costs of a new warehouse and a larger shop network.

Lonrho Africa ½p up

SHARES in Lonrho Africa ended their first day of trading after the group's demerger from Lonrho at 85p, up ½p from their opening price. The company, whose interests range from motor dealerships to hotels throughout Africa, has been split from its parent company as part of a restructuring which will see Lonrho concentrate on mining interests and ultimately change its name. Lonrho shareholders received one Lonrho Africa share for each share they hold. Lonrho shares rose 6½p to 336½p after the split. Tempus page 32

Wharf sale blocked

BRITISH DREDGING shareholders yesterday blocked the sale of the company's Orchard Wharf property at a special meeting. Grafton, which owns 29 per cent of British Dredging and which has bid for the building materials group, had stated in its offer document that it would vote against the sale of the Greenwich property. The first closing date for the Grafton bid is May 18. The bid values British Dredging at 193.6p a share. The shares closed unchanged at 191½p yesterday.

Sony enjoys record year

SONY CORPORATION profits hit a record high for a second consecutive year in the financial year to March, but the electronics giant expects its strong growth momentum to slow during the current business year. Sony net profit soared 59 per cent to 222 billion yen (£1.01 billion) in the year, on sales up 19 per cent to 6.76 trillion yen. Sony put the rise down to unexpectedly strong sales of its PlayStation game console and other electronics products, as well as strong management at its Hollywood film-making unit.

Clyde disappoints City

SHARES in Clyde Blowers fell from 253p to 189p after the Glasgow engineering company revealed a first-half profit of £545,000, up on the previous £89,000 but well below City forecasts. Sales in the six months to February 28 rose from £28.6 million to £35 million. Asia's currency crisis created problems in the group's materials handling division. Earnings per share for the group, which last month finalised an engineering partnership with the Chinese Government, rose from 0.54p to 2.48p. Interim dividend is held at 2.67p.

BTR's upbeat message

IAN STRACHAN, the chief executive of BTR, told investors at the annual meeting that the group is still suffering from the strong pound and the economic slowdown in Korea and South-East Asia. He added that high interest rates in Brazil continue to be a problem and have affected car sales. However, he said, BTR, which has raised £3.7 billion so far from its disposal programme, expects an improvement in its performance through the year. The group's shares rose 4½p to 209p.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.69	2.51
Austria Sch	21.46	19.80
Belgium Fr	63.13	58.17
Canada $	2.499	2.311
Cyprus Cy£	0.899	0.827
Denmark Kr	11.68	10.79
Finland Mkk	9.39	8.64
France Fr	10.22	9.44
Germany Dm	3.07	2.83
Greece Dr	532	483
Hong Kong $	13.59	12.39
Iceland	130	110
Ireland Pt	1.21	1.12
Israel Snk	6.46	5.81
Italy Lira	3043	2806
Japan Yen	234.11	216.58

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Malta	0.677	0.618
Netherlds Gld	3.468	3.173
New Zealand $	3.17	2.93
Norway Kr	12.76	11.82
Portugal Esc	310.28	288.25
S Africa Rd	8.04	8.08
Spain Pta	258.48	239.89
Sweden Kr	13.30	12.20
Switzerland Fr	2.57	2.36
Turkey Lira	416481	396603
USA $	1.754	1.611

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Taxpayers may face nuclear costs

TAXPAYERS may face the costs of nuclear decommissioning if British Energy fails to find all of the cash itself, the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee has warned (writes Christine Buckley).

David Davis, speaking as the National Audit Office (NAO) delivered its report on the privatisation of the nuclear generator, said the Department of Trade and Industry should "continually monitor the position in order to protect the interests of the taxpayer".

But Mr Davis and the NAO, the public spending watchdog, both praised the last government for ensuring that the risk of taxpayers having to foot some of the nuclear clean-up costs was minimised. The establishment of a nuclear decommissioning fund and special shares in the company mitigated potential pitfalls.

The NAO found that the sell-off of British Energy, which was hit by controversy after cracks were found in some of its reactors, had created "a robust company". British Energy faces nuclear liabilities of £3.7 billion and was privatised for £1.3 billion.

The Government has been told by the NAO that it should keep its special shares beyond the planned expiry date of 2006. Those shares give the Government authority over nuclear plant disposal.

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

Cox opts to drop Lloyd's accounting procedure

By Gavin Lumsden

COX INSURANCE, the Lloyd's company which specialises in insuring nuclear power stations, has ditched the three-year accounting method traditionally used by Lloyd's to adopt the more transparent reporting methods of general insurers such as General Accident and Royal & SunAlliance.

Cox hopes to demonstrate the full value of its business and persuade around 6,000 names — the private individuals who provide over half of its underwriting capital — to become shareholders.

The restated accounts showed Cox achieved a 65 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £20.3 million in the nine months to the end of 1997 compared with the previous 12 month period. The rise reflects the increasing share of the profit stream which Cox has bought from names.

Adjusted earnings per share were 13.4p (10.0p). The company is paying a final dividend of 2.4p, bringing the total to 3.2p, up 14 per cent.

DTI offers change in rules on buybacks

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

COMPANIES should be able to retain their own shares on their books when they buy them back from shareholders, a discussion document from the Department of Trade and Industry suggests.

If agreed, companies would no longer have to cancel shares after share buybacks and deplete their distributable reserves. Bought-in shares could be sold or reissued later, helping to massage price levels.

The projected change in the Companies Act 1985 follows a campaign by several leading companies for the UK to come into line with American rules.

The DTI argues that if buyback rules were eased, more disclosure would be needed and shareholders should be more involved in decisions. Sales of shares held "in treasury" would be banned during price-sensitive periods and the company should not be able to use votes attaching to them.

Commentary, page 31

Stanford to back UK start-ups

By Chris Ayres

CLIFF STANFORD, the entrepreneur who pocketed nearly £34 million last week when he sold Demon Internet to Scottish Telecom, has decided to put half his personal fortune into backing British innovations.

In a move that will invite comparisons with Richard Branson and Alan Sugar — with whom he shares a preference for unorthodox management and facial hair — Mr Stanford intends to stamp his personal brand on to all innovations that he backs.

The company will be called Redbus, but Mr Stanford said he had no plans to launch a Redbus Cola or Redbus Vodka in the near future. Redbus Internet is also unlikely because Mr Stanford is believed to have signed an agreement not to compete with Scottish Telecom.

When asked why he chose the name Redbus, he said: "I was told by my advisers that I needed a vehicle for my investments. And I've always wanted to drive a big red bus."

Although Mr Stanford will put up about £15 million for investments, he said he also wanted to use his experience of running Demon — which he founded in the boiler room of a North London cinema with £20,000 — to help entrepreneurs with management.

Mr Stanford, who divides his time between Belgium, London and Spain, said Redbus was not intended to be a venture capital operation such as 3i or Apax Partners. The difference, he said, was that he would take an active role in running businesses and help them brand and market their products.



Stanford: offers help

"It's not an 'either/or' situation. I want to work very closely with venture capitalists. I've enjoyed working with Apax in the past, but there is no deal on the table," he said.

He added that he would be happy if he had found one product to back by the end of the year. "All I've done so far is to take an office and logo."

Mr Stanford emphasised that he wanted to help develop successful British innovations.

"We're very good at inventing things, but not good at seeing them through. That's why I sold Demon to Scottish Telecom — to keep it British," he said.

Mr Stanford invited entrepreneurs to contact him with their business plans at ideas@redbus.demon.co.uk

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Bigger deal from lesser men

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Jürgen Schrempp chose his words carefully when asked how it had been possible to reach agreement on the terms for a £55 billion merger. The secret, he said yesterday, was "lesser men".

Neither Schrempp, the chairman of Daimler Benz, nor Robert Eaton, the chairman of Chrysler, could be dismissed as minor players on the industrial stage but together they have produced a deal that is bigger than both of them. Finalising details of financial terms and management structure may be easier if few people are involved but, while it may not have been exactly what Mr Schrempp was referring to, reaching agreement is much easier if egos do not reign.

As Schrempp and Eaton took to the stage of the London Arena to present their plans, they formed a graphic reminder of what might have been had Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham been led by "lesser men".

Not that the coming together of Daimler and Chrysler should be seen as a genuine merger of equals. Daimler, though smaller in profit terms, is the dominant partner, and not merely because its shareholders will own 57 per cent of the merged group. In theory, Schrempp and Eaton will power share until 2001 but those who witnessed the show at the Arena saw the German in the driving seat while the American graciously acknowledged the huge financial benefits that should start flowing towards shareholders almost immediately.

That savings of £1.4 billion could be generated next year, without any plant closures or layoffs only hints at the benefits there may be in the future, once initial squeamishness has been overcome. Remember, Glaxo and SmithKline envisaged annual savings on a similar scale. If Schrempp and Eaton can sit side by side in the London Arena, perhaps some impressario could persuade Jan Leschly and Sir Richard Sykes on to the stage for an evening with a gladiatorial theme.

The last significant event to take place in the Docklands venue was the Vickers annual meeting, at which Sir Colin Chandler insisted that he was happily proceeding with the sale of Rolls-Royce Motorcars to Daimler-Benz rival BMW.

His attitude seemed odd at the time, given the public insistence by Volkswagen that it was anxious to trump substantially the BMW offer. Now Sir Colin has listened to the money talking and BMW is to be ditched in favour of the higher bid. Shareholders are unlikely to see any reason to favour one German bidder over another, apart from the hard cash. Rolls-Royce plc, however, may see things differently.

The company still maintains that it has a right of veto over ownership of the famous car marque, a view being challenged by Vickers. It was happy with BMW, a judgment probably influenced by the fact that it has some joint projects with the company. Its attitude to VW may not be quite as friendly.

New Deal? Not such a great deal

Hurrah for the New Deal. This week two Southwark youngsters, who in the dark days of the old deal might have been contemplating a career on the dole, have found themselves installed in administrative roles at the Department for Education and Employment.

But are these genuine jobs rather than photocall opportunities? It may be that the DfEE really does need new administrative staff, but, like other employers offering New Deal employment, the jobs carry the £60 a head subsidy that the Employment Service is dangling as an enticement to persuade companies to take on formerly unemployed young people. The DfEE says it does intend going through the book-keeping exercise of claiming the subsidy it is due. Whitehall bureaucracy means that almost certainly the procedure will cost more than £60. It seems an odd way of using the proceeds of the windfall tax on the utilities.

The New Deal would be most effective if it concentrated on subsidising the people and not the jobs, particularly not artificially boosting the number of civil servants. The risk that subsidised jobs may not be real jobs has already been acknowledged in the Government's decision to allow some employers to claim the subsidy for jobs which may only last for six months. The truth is that artificial subsidies do not create real jobs.

The aim of gathering unemployed 18 to 25 year olds and ushering them into useful activity — the dole is no longer to be an option — is admirable. Business is hugely supportive of the aim: these people are not just potential staff, they are potential customers and could be useful contributors to boosting the national wealth rather than being a charge on it. But, as several business bosses have already made clear to Andrew Smith, Employment Minister, the most effective role government could play is to invest in making these people employable.

The sad fact is that many of today's young unemployed would not be taken on by a sensible employer for any subsidy. The New Deal acknowledges there is a problem and the first step in the project, the Gateway, aims to tackle this, with personal advisers, appraisals and skills help. To make this Gateway really effective will require huge investment.

If the Government concentrated on putting its money there instead of subsidising jobs, then it may find that employers would do the rest.

After the buyback, the share sellback

Whenever the authorities give companies more freedom to move their capital around, they should ask: what might the late Robert Maxwell or a hundred lesser pragmatists have made of it? Not a lot, the DTI seems to think in the case of companies owning their own shares. In commendable new Labour spirit, the DTI has responded warmly to a little campaign by big companies to be able to retain shares they have bought back as US-style "treasury shares" for later resale.

If this cuts the cost of capital, as proponents hope, it will be chiefly because companies can buy cheap and sell dear — if they get it right — thereby clipping peaks and troughs in market prices. They could also issue shares for cash more easily without referring to shareholders or giving them right of refusal.

Fund managers would have something to say about that. They usually allow boards to issue an extra 5 per cent of capital without pre-emption rights. EU rules permit buybacks up to 10 per cent without shares being cancelled. At the least, institutional investors would want to count these as alternatives.

If buyback shares are held in treasury, however, there would be no benefit to earnings per share, somewhat negating the point. By contrast, enhanced powers to buy shares temporarily could make it even easier to manipulate a share price in time to trigger lucrative options. Moves to make corporate finance more flexible are welcome, but let's not rush into this one.

Holiday blues

CHEAPER holidays make an enticing shareholder perk, so the public greeted the Thomson Travel flotation enthusiastically. Alas, not all would-be shareholders will have been able to meet yesterday's deadline for applications, thanks to an administrative farce. Keeping the punters happy now will certainly necessitate scaling back the institutional offer, but then tour companies are used to dealing with double bookings.

Shell blames weak oil prices for first-quarter fall

By Martin Barrow

WEAK oil prices were blamed for a sharp fall in first-quarter profits at Royal Dutch/Shell yesterday. The company reported net income of $1.696 billion (£1.03 billion) for the three months to March 31, down 23 per cent from $2.3 billion previously.

Inspite of the decline, the results were at the top end of City expectations and the company itself is generally optimistic about the trading outlook. Shell shares rose 6p to 454p and analysts are set to upgrade their forecasts for the full year.

Shell's replacement costs profits, which strip out inventory gains and losses, fell to $1.945 billion from $2.523 billion. This was well above analysts' forecasts of about $1.56 billion.

The results went some way towards alleviating the shock caused by Shell's lower than expected earnings in the final quarter of 1997.

Average oil prices continued to fall during the period, with an adverse impact on earnings from exploration and production.

Benchmark Brent crude fell from just under $16 per barrel at the beginning of January to a low of $11.90 per barrel in mid-March.

Earnings from exploration and production fell to $864 million from $1.57 billion, and were additionally affected by weak demand for gas because of the mild winter.

Prices have currently stabilised at between $13 and $14 per barrel. Shell said that the outlook for crude prices depended on the implementation of production cuts agreed by members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

Earnings from chemicals rose to $290 million from $244 million, with a one-off tax adjustment and an asset sale offsetting the impact of difficult trading conditions. Overall margins were lower as petrochemical prices have fallen even further, partly because of the Asian economic crisis and also increased industry capacity. Shell said that the outlook depended mainly on the speed of recovery of Asian economies.

Capital investment for the quarter was $4.5 billion, nearly $2 billion higher than a year ago, mainly because of the Tejas Gas acquisition in America by Shell Oil.

The decline in oil prices left Shell further adrift in meeting its target rate of return on capital this year. In the first quarter, the rate of return fell to 10.8 per cent from 11.9 per cent a year ago. This compares with this year's target of 13 per cent, and a longer-term aim of 15 per cent.

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Astec investors lose High Court action

MINORITY shareholders in Astec (BSR) have lost their case in the High Court against 51 per cent stakeholder Emerson Electric, the US group (Martin Barrow writes).

Yesterday Mr Justice Jonathan Parker ordered the petition presented in March by institutions led by Electra Fleming and Norwich Union to be struck out. He also ordered the institutions to pay Emerson's legal costs. The institutions alleged Emerson unfairly prejudiced their position as minority shareholders by removing independent directors and threatening to block future dividend payments in its attempt to buy out the minority holdings.

The High Court ruled the petition was "misconceived and unsustainable" and had no basis in law.



RICHARD POHLE

People matter: Michael McLintock, chief executive, says a bad merger could mean good managers quitting

M&G dismisses merger talk

By Paul Durman

M&G GROUP, the fund manager seen as a takeover target in recent months, yesterday set out the case for its independence, and doubted that "increased size is necessarily in the interests of customers and shareholders".

Michael McLintock, the chief executive, said talk of consolidation in the investment industry ignored the potential diseconomies of scale. "People forget the investment business relies on people to deliver the goods," he said. A bad merger could produce a cultural clash or management problems that led to fund managers leaving.

"We have been attracting very high quality people. If we can deliver [investment] performance, everything else will follow."

M&G reported a 15 per cent increase in first-half profits to £38.1 million, and a resumption in dividend growth. The interim dividend will rise 16 per cent to 18.5p. Interim revenues rose by 9 per cent to £80.2 million, significantly lagging the 22 per cent rise in the FTSE All share index.

David Watson, the finance director, said this reflected M&G's heavy investments in small- and medium-sized companies, whose value (the basis for M&G's income) grew relatively slowly last year.

Criticism of M&G's investment performance has cost the group market share, although Pep sales rose by £17 million to £213 million and other unit trust sales by £13 million to £100 million.

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Prowting profits more than double

By Kathy Lipari

PROWTING, the housebuilder, said record home sales and a 6 per cent rise in average selling prices helped to more than double pre-tax profits in the year to the end of February.

The profits were £16.8 million, against £7.7 million in 1997. Operating margins rose 11.4 per cent (7.1 per cent).

Terry Roydon, the chief executive, said the strength of the market had surprised some analysts and he anticipated conditions would remain buoyant.

The £11.8 million acquisition of Magnus Homes in February 1997 also lifted earnings, although there was an exceptional cost of £700,000 integrating the business.

Earnings rose to 15.9p a share (6.1p). A final dividend of 2.5p makes a total of 4.6p (4p).

Mr Roydon said Prowting would invest about £60 million in its land bank this year after spending about £45 million last year.

He expected the average house price to be £110,000.

Matalan's debut price tops City forecasts

By Fraser Nelson

MATALAN, the out-of-town clothing retailer, prepared itself for a demanding stock market debut yesterday by pricing its shares at 235p apiece — much higher than the City had expected.

The company, which runs 74 discount warehouses, will be valued at £197 million when it joins the market after raising £23 million for the family of John Hargreaves, the founder and chairman.

Its shares will be valued at 19.4 times their historic earnings — against a sector average of 19 times. The company has raised £10.4 million for working capital, and Mr Hargreaves' family will own 65 per cent of the shares.

Richard Ratner, analyst at Butterfield Securities, the broker, said: "The stock is very expensive. There are a lot of very good stores on an earnings multiple of 12 and 13 times. Matalan will be lucky to get a good aftermarket at this level."

Some institutional investors are understood to be hesitant about taking a position in Matalan after its shares start dealing next Thursday.

SBC Warburg Dillon Read has placed 24.4 million shares, 5.5 million for existing shareholders.

New Deal young get ministry jobs

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

THE first young unemployed people to be given jobs in Government under the New Deal have arrived at the Department for Education and Employment (See Commentary, this page).

Like all employers offering jobs under the New Deal, the ministry could claim £60 a week subsidy for each job from the Employment Service, which is itself part of the department.

The scheme, which went nationwide last month, has been running since January in 12 trial areas. After going through the Gateway programme of training and advice, the "new dealers" are predominantly deciding to take up the option of full-time education and training.

This was the choice of 1,952 youngsters, while another 1,168 have moved into unsubsidised employment and 975 have taken subsidised jobs. The Environmental Task Force has recruited 425 people and 626 have taken up the option of work in the voluntary sector.

More than 7,000 employers have now signed up to the Government's New Deal programme. Some of the better-known include Blue Circle, Coopers and Lybrand, Alliance & Leicester and Reckitt and Colman.



Andrew Smith, David Blunkett and new recruits

Danka to shed 600 staff from back office

By Fraser Nelson

DANKA Business Systems, the photocopier group which doubled in size last year after buying Kodak's office division, is to shed 600 jobs over the next nine months.

The company, which has so far cut 400 jobs in its service department, intends to reduce its administrative staff after installing a new computer system.

David Snell is to retire as chief financial officer — but Danka stressed his departure is unconnected with the turmoil the company has suffered in the last 15 months.

Mark Vaughan-Lee, chairman, said Mr Snell was leaving on amicable terms after 20 years with the company — and would receive no compensation other than his retirement package. The company hopes to name a new finance director before Mr Snell steps down in July.

After £13 million exceptional costs integrating the Kodak acquisition, and a £3 million reverse on currency translation, Danka's pre-tax profits were £65.1 million (£29 million) for the year to March 31. Headline earnings were 24.3p (26.1p) a share and the dividend rises to 3.12p (2.6p).

Danka shares, which traded at 780p six months ago, rose 15p to 332½p.

NI Electricity to expand south

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

NORTHERN Ireland Electricity is to forge links with the Republic of Ireland in a drive to expand its business.

Viridian, a holding company, has begun talks with large industrial customers and is looking at contracts for high-voltage networks.

The move south is part of a wider effort to develop overseas. Viridian is looking for opportunities in India where the electricity distribution network is being privatised. Poland and the US are also under consideration.

The company is also diversifying beyond its core electricity operations. Today it will announce details of a credit card link-up with Bank of Scotland. Last month it began offering financial services in association with with Irish Permanent Building Society.

Meanwhile, regulatory uncertainty continues to dog the company as both it and the Northern Ireland electricity and gas regulator await the result of a long-running judicial review. The dispute arose after the regulator tried to implement a pricing formula that was tougher than had been recommended by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. At stake is about £5 million a year in revenues.

Viridian's pre-tax profits before exceptionals for the year to March 31 dropped 31 per cent to £74.3 million as price caps bit. The company decided to implement price falls in line with the MMC's recommendation ahead of the legal ruling.

Earnings per share before the windfall tax rose to 44p from 21.6p, boosted by last year's £67 million buy-back. The company paid a windfall tax of £42.7 million. The total dividend increased 10 per cent to 23p with the final payment of 16.95p due on October 1.

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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer of the Year

EMI's price hopes hit as PolyGram put up for sale

HOPES that Seagram may be prepared to offer top dollar for **EMI Group** have suffered a setback. The EMI price fell a further 15p to 575p after learning that Philips, the Dutch company, had put its PolyGram music division up for sale. PolyGram is regarded as EMI's biggest rival and now there are two music companies on the market. Seagram might be having second thoughts about the price it is prepared to pay.

City speculators were having their nerves tested yesterday. They had been claiming the North American drinks and leisure group was poised to offer between 580p and 600p a share. But that figure may now be pared back.

Credit Lyonnais, the broker, has certainly turned cautious of EMI. It has been telling clients the shares are only worth a "hold".

There was only one way for share prices generally to move yesterday after the near 100-point fall overnight on Wall Street and fresh losses in Far Eastern markets. The decision of the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee to peg interest rates was welcomed but not entirely unexpected.

Even so, the FTSE 100 managed to almost halve a 93-point deficit to close 54.4 down on the day 5,398.0. Total turnover reached 913 million shares.

The best performing company among the top 100 was a bank, as was the worst performing company. **Royal Bank of Scotland** rose 54½p to 988p after better than expected profits news, but worries about the Far East left **Standard Chartered** down 62p at 867p.

The about-face by **Vickers** which has agreed now to accept the high offer for Rolls-Royce from Volkeswagen came after the close of business where the shares were ½p lighter at 235½p.

Prudential Corporation dropped 35½p to 806½p after Goldman Sachs, the US securities house, urged clients to "sell". Earlier this week, HSBC James Capel, the broker, turned negative of the sector producing further falls yesterday in **Britannic** 10p to £12.50, **Legal & General** 34p to 688p, **Norwich Union** 8½p to 430½p, **Sun Life & Provincial** 15p to 574p.

Technical considerations left **Lonrho** nursing an apparent loss of 73½p at 336½p. But in truth, the shares were 6½p ahead at 336½p following completion of the demerger of its Afican interests. **Lonrho Africa** started life at 84½p and was chased higher to close ½P up at 85p.

Speculation that **Pilkington** may be tempted by the recent revival in the share price to ask shareholders for extra cash left the price 2½p cheaper at 134p. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, believes Pilkington needs the money to finance expansion plans and is urging clients to "sell".



Carpetright was one of the worst performing shares on the 250 index after a profits downgrading by its broker

Carpetright was one of the worst performing shares among the FTSE 250 index dropping 10½p, or almost 3 per cent, to 350½p on turnover of more than 1 million shares. It followed a profits downgrading by the company's own broker SBC Warburg Dillon Read from "buy" to "hold".

Powerscreen fell 8p to 184½p. The Serious Fraud Office is looking into accounting irregularities at the group's Matbro subsidiary. A number of heads have already rolled and the shares have plunged from a peak of 607½p this year.

News of a bid approach lifted **Spargo Consultants** 27½p to a peak of 317½p. The group, which installs and services computer software systems, is thought to have received an approach from an American systems servicer.

Jeyes Group also benefited from an agreed bid approach from IWP International with a leap of 53½p at 241p. The offer is worth 250p a share and values Jeyes at £51.25 million.

A bid approach provided rich dividends for **Zetters** with the price climbing 12p to 158½p. The football pools operator is capitalised at £11.5 million. **Associated British Ports**, down 6p at 369p, says it may be prepared to offer 190p a share for **American Port Services**, up 14p at 179p.

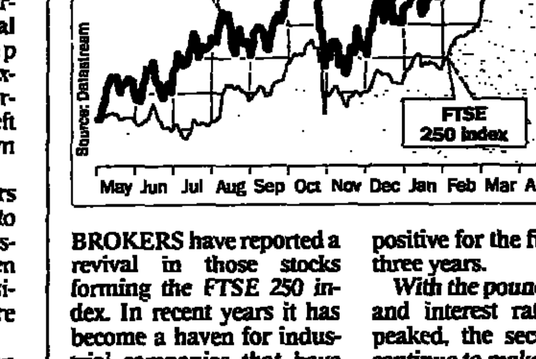
Persistent bid speculation drove **Colt Telecom** 60p higher to £14.20 in a thin market.

A profits warning left **Future Integrated Telephony** nursing a loss of 14½p at 67½p, after briefly touching 54p. The AIM-listed group says profits for the current year will not meet expectations. The best shareholders could hope for was break-even.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices at the longer end of the market dropped by almost a full point reflecting a further setback for sterling and weaker performances among other European bond markets. In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fell £17/32 to £108¼ as a total of 71,000 contracts were completed. The five-year future fell 0.17 to £102.84 in thin turnover that saw just 763 contracts traded.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2021 lost £29/32 to close at £127½ while among shorter-dated issues Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was seven ticks lower at £103 1/32.

□ **NEW YORK:** Fears that the April employment report will lead to an interest rate rise sent Wall Street into retreat. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 32.88 points at 9,021.77.



BROKERS have reported a revival in those stocks forming the FTSE 250 index. In recent years it has become a haven for industrial companies that have lost their place among the top 100 and depend heavily on the pound when competing abroad.

Robert Fleming Securities, the broker, is encouraged by the recent turn of events. From 1993 until early last year the earnings growth of the FTSE 250 index has consistently outperformed the FTSE 100 index. But in April, relative earnings revisions were positive for the first time in three years.

With the pound in retreat and interest rates having peaked, the sector should continue to make headway.

Investors are urged to be selective, focusing on better-quality companies with good prospects. Those being recommended by Fleming include Burmah Castrol, up 21p at £13.13, First Leisure, 28½p better at 378½p, Inchcape, steady at 229½p, Northern Rock, ½p cheaper at 607½p, South West Water, down 9p at 952½p, and WH Smith, 4p firmer at 579p.

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	9021.77 (-32.88)
S&P Composite	1101.34 (-3.58)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	15143.03 (-100.81)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9971.93 (-137.21)
Amsterdam:	
AEX Index	1143.34 (-20.35)
Sydney:	
AO	2780.8 (-7.2)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	5186.23 (-43.57)
Singapore:	
Straits	1428.50 (-19.90)
Brussels:	
General	18090.89 (-236.03)
Paris:	
CAC-40	3906.36 (-41.09)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1556.50 (-10.50)
London:	
FT 30	3865.4 (-17.3)
FTSE 100	5938.0 (-54.4)
FTSE 250	5702.7 (-2.7)
FTSE 350	2671.7 (-21.6)
FTSE Eurotop 100	2773.29 (-40.03)
FTSE All-Share	2803.13 (-19.11)
FTSE Non Financials	2824.58 (-14.00)
FTSE Fixed Interest	142.41 (-0.06)
FTSE Govt Secs	104.37 (-0.48)
Bargains	61836
SEAQ Volume	913.6m
US$	1.6460 (-0.0159)
German Mark	2.9032 (-0.0297)
Exchange Index	103.4 (-1.0)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4852
£:SDR	1.2305
RPI	160.8 Mar (3.5%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	158.9 Mar (2.6%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AB Airlines	95½	...
ARM Hldgs (575)	812½	- 7½
Aberdeen Cnvtble C	99½	+ ½
Advent 2 VCT	102	...
Ascot B	61	...
Captain OM Watts (4)	5	...
Close Bros AIM VCT	100	...
Desire Petroleum	160	+ 2½
Do 85% Cnv Ln 2005	109½	...
Do Warrants	1	...
Do Zero Div Prf	103½	...
GRE Red Prf B	20	...
INVESCO Grd Opps	111	- ½
JWE Telecom	125½	- 2
LLP Group	329½	...
Lonrho Africa	85	...
Murray VCT 3 (100)	97½	...
Ottakar's	226½	- 7½
Oxford Glycoscencs	305	- 1½
Quester VCT 2	90	...
Transport Dev B	36	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Avocet Mng n/p (60)	1¼	...
Freeprt Leis n/p (325)	43	...
Guinness Pt n/p (20)	11½	- ½
Magnum Pwr n/p (12)	5½	- ½
Memory Crp n/p (20)	11½	- 1½
Mon Oil & Gas n/p (55)	4¼	+ ¼
Radstone Tch n/p (40)	13¼	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Zetters Gp	158½p (+12p)
First Leis	378½p (+28p)
SDX Bs Sys	295½p (+18p)
Dart	406p (+24½p)
Ryl Bk Scot	988p (+54½p)
Bulmer (HP)	350p (+16p)
Low & Bonar	350p (+12½p)
FALLS:	
Clyde Blowers	189p (-6½p)
Stand Chart	867p (-62p)
DFS Furniture	259p (-15p)
Legal & Gen	688p (-34p)
Orange	422p (-20p)
Cable Wireless	641p (-27p)
BT	667p (-26p)
EMI	575p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 35

TEMPUS

Things go well with Shell

JUST three months ago the City greeted Shell's fourth-quarter results with howls of derision, and since then the shares have been under a cloud, unable to keep up with the rest of the market. Yesterday analysts were of one voice in singing the company's praises. The shares tripped higher, profit forecasts have been upgraded and there is even talk of a re-rating for Shell.

So what has changed in a single quarter? Not a lot, by most accounts. The oil price remains weak and the outlook offers no encouragement. In chemicals, the overall trading environment remains unfavourable and the trend will be determined by the state of Asian economies which, at this stage, is grim.

Yet, Shell's first-quarter results came in ahead of City forecasts. The highlight was downstream, bolstered by a strong improvement in European refining margins. Shell also hopes for a modest recovery in downstream margins in Asia in the second half.

Inevitably, given the weakness of oil prices, return on average capital employed has suffered, dipping to 10.8 per cent from 11.9 per cent. The company's current-year target of 13 per cent already looks out of reach, even if Shell insists its three-year target of 15 per cent is still obtainable.

With the outlook for oil prices and Asian economies still so uncertain, to talk of a re-rating for Shell is premature, although its current discount does seem unfair. Having disappointed followers so acutely last year, it will take more than one good quarter to restore confidence fully, but Shell looks a good long-term play.

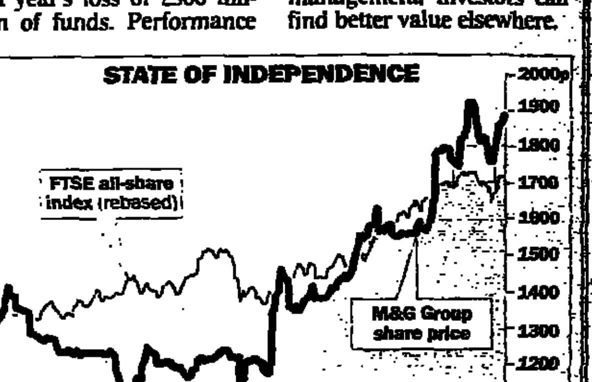
M&G Group

SHARES in M&G Group have climbed by two thirds since last August — not bad for a fund manager struggling to convince the sceptics that it has overcome its investment performance problems. The rise partly reflects the revival in the share prices of small and mid-cap companies, in which M&G invests a disproportionately large chunk of its £19.4 billion.

Hopes of a takeover by Halifax have also helped. M&G triedto pour cold water on such talk yesterday, attacking the assumption that fund managers must either "go global" or lose out to their larger rivals. With a strong franchise in the UK retail investment market, M&G can still make a strong case for independence.

First-half pre-tax profits rose by 15 per cent, helped by reduced advertising spending. Revenues, closely linked to funds under management, grew by 9 per cent, disappointing when measured alongside the 22 per cent rise in the FT All Share. As well as its small company bias, M&G has had to cope with last year's loss of £300 million of funds. Performance has improved and that should eventually deliver a revival in fund sales.

The Government's enthusiasm for individual savings accounts and private pensions provides a promising outlook. But with M&G shares trading at more than 7 per cent of its funds under management, investors can find better value elsewhere.



Lonrho Africa

POOR befuddled Lonrho shareholders — many of them private investors who used to hold the shares for the dividend — yesterday found themselves owners of shares in Lonrho Africa. They are probably wondering what to do with them, especially as the first day's trading saw the price end at just 85p.

There are many reasons why investors might be wary of Lonrho Africa. For one it is that dreaded thing, a unique oportunity to invest in a sector. This means that few City analysts follow it, fewer still understand it and few institutional investors want anything to do with it.

For another the company is riddled with risks largely beyond its control — mostly related to currencies and political instability in Africa. While all these uncertainties can produce oportunities — ask Sandline International — they do not make for a smooth earnings stream. However, given that Lonrho Africa has net assets of 135p a share and should report earnings of about 10p this year, the discount to both net asset vaule and a market multiple is pretty hefty. So shareholders would be ill advised to sell out now, and the brave might actually be tempted to add to their holdings.

Viridian

VIRIDIAN is in limbo. Until it hears the result of a judicial review it instigated following a bitter disagreement with the regulator over pricing curbs, its hands are tied.

For investors, as much as the company, this is a frustration. There is much anticipation over Viridian's next move especially as its balance sheet is lowly geared at 12 per cent. This will climb later in the year as the company fulfils loan note redemption commitments but will still leave the business with modest gearing. Share buybacks are high on the list of expectations but Viridian will need to wait to see the impact of the judicial review.

In setting tariffs in line with a Monopolies and Mergers Commission recommendation — which the regulator then sought to over-rule — Viridian has assumed it will win the review and left itself only open to downside.

Judicial review apart, we are also waiting to see a concrete plan for growth develop. Viridian has big hopes for overseas expansion. It hopes to get projects off the ground in India, Poland and possibly the US while it also works on strengthening links with the Republic of Ireland. When such aspirations start delivering is another matter.

Until the picture clears we will not know how good are the company's long-term prospects. Investors may wish to wait before buying Viridian unless they do so purely for the benefits of a hoped-for buyback.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

May	1115-1110	Jul	1218-1217
Jul	1136-1135	Sep	1230-1227
Sep	1154-1153	Dec	unq
Dec	1172-1170		
Mar	1189-1188		
May	1204-1202	Volume: 15731	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	1947-1940	Jan	unq
Jul	1830-1825	Mar	1690 SLR
Sep	1780-1770	May	unq
Nov	1746-1730	Volume: 1752	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	270.3-69.6
Spot: 264.0		May	274.7-73.1
Aug	261.0-60.3	Aug	279.7-76.1
Oct	262.0-60.8	Oct	284.7-79.1
Dec	267.0-64.8	Volume: 3379	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 6

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	65.95	78.97	85.50
(+/-)	-0.31	+1.77	+1.41
Eng/Wales:	65.95	123.54	84.69
(+/-)	-0.31	+9.62	+2.25
(%)	+4.0	+19.0	-13.0
Scotland:	unq	89.87	89.41
(+/-)		+10.85	-2.73
(%)		-2.0	-11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.20	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Jun)	14.80	+0.10
Brent 15 day (Jul)	15.10	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	15.65	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	16.30	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	158 (-1)	161 (-1)
Gasoil EEC	137 (+2)	139 (+2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	66 (-7)	68 (-6)
Naphtha	149 (+5)	151 (+3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	135.75-36.00	Aug	142.25-42.50
Jun	137.25-37.50	Sep	145.00-45.25
Jul	139.50-39.75	Vol: 21417	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	14.75 SLR	Sep	15.61 SLR
Jul	15.03 SLR	Oct	15.84 SLR
Aug	15.30 BID	Vol: 46503	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	77.10	May	77.00
Jul	79.25	Sep	75.00
Sep	77.75	Nov	77.00
Nov	79.75	Jan	79.00
Jan	81.75	Mar	81.00
Volume: 554		Volume: 29	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Jun	unq	138.0
Nov	—	75.0
Mar	—	105.0
		Volume: 41

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jun 48.25-48.75

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 98	990	990	970
Jun 98	935	935	935
Jul 98	935	935	930
Oct 98	unq	—	1055
Vol: 12 lots		Open interest: 994	

Index 1004 +2

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1780.5-1781.0	1791.0-1792.0	1648925
Lead ($/tonne)	545.50-546.50	560.50-561.50	121375
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1082.0-1082.5	1107.0-1108.0	532425
Tin ($/tonne)	5760.0-5770.0	5710.0-5715.0	22230
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1387.0-1388.0	1411.0-1412.0	1629875
Nickel ($/tonne)	5265.0-5270.0	5365.0-5370.0	126696

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jul	Oct	Jan	Puts Jul	Oct	Jan
ASDA	180	20½	27½	32	6	10½	11
(*192½)	200	10	17½	22½	14	19½	20½
Abbey Nat	1050	102½	135½	168½	36½	66	82½
(*1098)	1100	75½	111	144	58½	90½	107
All&Lec	850	55½	88½	104	43½	63½	71
(*851)	900	34	64	80½	72	90½	97½
Alld Dom	600	38½	64	72½	20	35	44
(*621)	650	17½	40½	49½	48½	62	71
BAA	800	31½	48½	60½	26½	36	43
(*805)	850	12½	27½	39	57½	65½	72
BAT Ind	550	54½	71½	88	21½	40½	45½
(*578½)	600	29½	50	64	45½	63½	71
Barclays	1700	138½	201½	247½	62½	107	131
(*1750½)	1800	86½	151½	196	111½	155½	180
Bass	1050	74½	103½	—	53	65	—
(*1084½)	1100	59	87½	101	68	80	94½
Boots	900	50	78	98½	43½	58½	67
(*908½)	950	30	57½	75½	72	84½	94
Br Airways	600	54½	78½	93½	21	35½	45½
(*634½)	650	29½	53½	69	43½	60½	70
BP	900	81	111½	128	32	52½	60½
(*945)	950	54	87	102½	50½	76½	84
Br Steel	160	12½	17	20½	10	14	17
(*165)	180	4	9	12½	23	26½	29
C&W	600	84½	81½	100½	19	34	42½
(*636)	650	37½	58½	76½	39	56½	66½
CU	1100	90½	122½	146½	51½	71½	87½
(*1122½)	1150	64½	97½	121	76½	96	112
GlaxoW	1600	151	213	262½	57½	107	126½
(*1677½)	1700	99	162	214	101½	153½	175½
HSBC	1700	167	232½	282	71	126½	149½
(*1774½)	1800	114½	184	234	118½	175½	199
Halifax	750	55½	78	98	22½	42	48½
(*775½)	800	30½	53	72	48	66½	70½
ICI	1100	84½	120½	150½	34	61½	76
(*1138½)	1150	58	95	125	57½	85½	99½
Land Sec	1000	59	95	111	37½	58½	64½
(*1029½)	1050	35½	71	86	65	84	89½
M&S	550	27½	46	57½	26½	37½	41
(*554)	600	11	27	36½	60	66½	71
Natl Pwr	550	41	64	79	34	40½	51
(*571)	600	22	43½	58	62½	69½	81
Nat West	1150	108½	146½	178½	45½	77	93
(*1189)	1200	82½	124	153½	69	101	117½
Reed Intl	500	55½	72½	82½	17	28½	30
(*534)	550	27½	47	57	39½	52½	53½
Reuters	588	62	85½	—	17	31	—
(*625)	645	29½	55	—	42½	58	—
RylSun	650	66	80	106½	22	36	44
(*660½)	700	42	64	84	44½	60	68
Safeway	360	20½	34	40½	22	32	37½
(*363½)	390	11	22½	29	42	51	56
Sainsbury	500	36	55	68	19	30	37½
(*521)	550	17	34	45	46½	55½	64
Shell	420	44	57½	66½	9	16	20½
(*452)	460	22½	35	45	23	33	38
SmKl Bch	700	53½	84	105½	44	64½	77
(*701)	750	32½	62½	86	73½	92	104½
Std Chta	850	86	124½	155	54½	80½	102
(*871½)	900	62½	101	132½	80	106½	126
Thames W	900	75½	90½	113	31	42	51½
(*940½)	950	47	64	86½	56	66	75
Vodafone	650	63½	90½	106	20½	45	55
(*675½)	700	39½	66	81½	54½	70	80
Woolwich	324	29	39½	—	12½	22½	—
(*334)	354	16	27½	—	29	37½	—
Zeneca	2500	159	242½	314½	106½	169½	197
(*2517½)	2600	110½	191	264	159	218½	246
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BTR	200	11	22½	28½	2½	11½	18½
(*207½)	220	2	13½	18½	13½	22	28
Blue Circ	360	17	39½	51	6	22	30
(*371)	390	3½	26	37	23	38	45½
Br Aero	525	17	45	64	11	33	43½
(*528½)	550	6½	34	52	25½	46	56
Br Telcm	650	24½	53	70½	8½	32½	45
(*665)	700	5	30	48	38	59	72
Cadbury	850	49½	91½	111½	5	30	41
(*892½)	900	17½	64	86	22½	52	64
Carlton Cms	500	17	42½	54	12	33	39
(*502½)	550	5½	22½	35	48	61½	68½
Energy Gp	800	39	40	41	1	—	—
(*838)	850	1½	2	3	14	17	18½
Gallaher	300	15½	31	38	3½	13½	23½
(*312)	330	2½	17½	24	20	29½	40
GEC	500	30½	54½	69½	4	22	37
(*526)	550	5½	32½	46	27½	49	63
	Series	May	—	—	May	—	—
Diageo	613	117	—	—	—	—	—
(*728½)	671	60½	—	—	1½	—	—
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Diageo	671	61	82	—	2	21	—
(*728½)	729	20	59	—	18½	44½	—
Hanson	360	10½	27	36	5	18	25
(*365)	390	1	14	23	25½	34½	41½
Imp Tob	420	22	35	47	3	18½	22
(*438)	460	3	18	28½	23½	38	43
Kingfshr	1000	45½	94½	115	11½	45	50½
(*1030½)	1050	17½	68½	89	33½	68½	73½
Lasmo	260	9½	26½	36½	4	13	17
(*268½)	280	—	17½	25	15½	24	27
Ladbroke	300	16	32½	39½	3	15	21
(*313)	330	2	19	26	19½	31	36
LucasVar	260	18	30	39½	2½	11½	16½
(*276½)	280	5½	19½	29½	10½	21	26
P&O	850	40½	74½	88½	6	27	41
(*882½)	900	11½	46½	61½	26½	49½	64
Prudentl	800	27	75	98½	20½	55	71
(*803½)	850	8½	52½	77	52½	82	97½
Rio Tinto	850	25½	71½	96	17½	47	68
(*858½)	900	7½	48½	72½	48½	74	94½
Redland	330	15½	16	—	½	0½	—
(*345)	360	½	0½	—	15½	15½	—
R-Royce	280	18	33½	43½	3	14½	20½
(*285½)	300	7	23½	34½	11	23	30½
Tesco	550	21	47	64½	8	26	35½
(*563)	600	2	25	41½	38½	53½	62½
Utd Bisc	260	10	22½	27	2½	10	16½
(*266)	280	2	13½	18	14½	20½	27
	Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
BG	306	26½	—	—	7	—	—
(*325½)	330	12½	25½	35	15	22½	28½
BSkyB	390	38	52½	63	8½	13	26½
(*417½)	420	20½	36½	48	20½	32	40½
Br Bio	60	14	18	22½	4	8	11
(*69½)	70	9	14½	19	8½	13½	17
Centrica	100	8½	12	15½	4	6½	7
(*102½)	110	2½	7½	11	10	12	12½
Dixons	550	42½	61½	81½	11	28½	33½
(*576)	600	16½	38	56½	34	54	58
EMI	550	55	67½	85	23	42	50½
(*573½)	600	31½	44	61½	49	69	77
Granada	1050	63½	100	137	22	47	59½
(*1084½)	1100	36½	75	101	43½	69	83
GUS	850	55½	89½	106½	21½	37	52½
(*877½)	900	29	63½	80	43½	61	76
Llyds TSB	850	72	104½	131½	24½	49½	66½
(*880)	900	44	79½	107	47	74	91½
Lonrho	321	27	—	38½	8½	—	20½
(*336)	353	11½	—	23½	24½	—	38
Norwich	420	25½	44½	57	16½	28½	37
(*424½)	460	10½	27½	40	41	51½	58½
Orange	390	38	50	70	10½	22	29½
(*414½)	420	21	43	55½	23	36	44
Railtrck	1000	75	111	137	32½	57½	74
(*1042)	1050	47½	85	112	55	76½	98
Scot Pwr	550	29	52½	66	26	38½	45
(*558½)	600	10	30½	47	58	69	74½
Tarmac	110	8	13	15	4	5½	8
(*115)	120	3	8	10½	9	10½	13½
Tomkins	330	25	34	41	5½	14½	17½
(*348½)	360	9½	18½	26½	18½	29	33
Unilever	600	57	78	92½	10	22½	28
(*642½)	650	27	51	65	28½	43½	49½

May 7 Total: 28173 Calls: 14992 Puts: 11181

FTSE INDEX (*5989)

Strike	Calls May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Dec	Puts May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Dec
5800	151	276½	351	421	629	41	144	193	243	340
5850	114½	248	321½	391	—	54½	164½	213	262	—
5900	85	214½	292	361½	561½	75	185	233½	281½	378
5950	58½	185½	262½	331½	—	100½	205½	255	301	—
6000	38½	159½	233	302	487½	133	232	277½	322	418
6050	24	135½	211	276½	—	174	258	306	348	—
6100	13½	116	180	254½	442	222	286½	335½	376	468

May 7 Total: 6514 Calls: 4561 Puts: 1953

*Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 98	108-25	108-27	108-06	108-08	71534
Previous open interest 8	Sep 98				108.39	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Jun 98	106.91	106.98	106.62	106.65	58919
Previous open interest 157199	Sep 98	106.54	106.54	106.30	106.28	614
Five Year Gilt	Jun 98	103.05	103.05	102.87	102.84	763
Previous open interest 10081	Sep 98				104.19	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Jun 98	118.73	118.86	118.45	118.47	28562
Previous open interest 134699	Sep 98	119.25	119.25	118.96	118.95	776
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Jun 98	132.20	132.23	132.11	132.20	1806
	Sep 98	132.17	132.18	132.07	132.16	142
Three Mth Sterling	Jun 98	92.580	92.580	92.560	92.560	20846
	Sep 98	92.730	92.750	92.680	92.680	30818
Previous open interest 914229	Dec 98	92.910	92.920	92.840	92.860	31574
Three Mth Euromark	Jun 98	96.270	96.270	96.255	96.260	46577
Previous open interest 2369804	Sep 98	96.105	96.120	96.095	96.105	58232
Three Mth Eurolira	Jun 98	95.340	95.340	95.260	95.270	46615
Previous open interest 1036776	Sep 98	95.770	95.770	95.730	95.750	19372
Three Mth Euroswiss	Jun 98	98.400	98.430	98.380	98.430	17729
Previous open interest 155194	Sep 98	98.210	98.260	98.200	98.250	19725
Three Mth ECU	May 98				95.740	0
Previous open interest 46648	Jun 98	95.760	95.760	95.730	95.740	267
FTSE 100	Jun 98	5968.0	5985.0	5930.0	5933.0	18839
Previous open interest 165117	Sep 98	6058.5	6058.5	6058.5	6007.5	500

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 5 Week fixed: 7¼

Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 7 ; 3 mth 7 . Sell: 2 mth 6⅞ ; 3 mth 6⅞ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7⅛	7⅛-7¼	
Sterling Money Rates:	7¼-7⅛	7⁹⁄₃₂-7⁵⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7⁵⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7¼-7⅛
Interbank:	7¼-7⅛	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7¼-7⅛
Overnight: open 7⅛, close 5 .					
Local Authority Deps:	7¼	n/a	7¼	7¼	7¼
Sterling CDs:	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7¼-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7¼-7⅛	7¼-7¼
Dollar CDs:	5.52	n/a	5.58	5.65	5.78
Building Society CDs:	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁹⁄₃₂-7¹¹⁄₃₂	7⁵⁄₁₆-7¼

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅝-5½	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⁹⁄₁₆-5⁷⁄₁₆	5⅝-5½	5⅝-4¼
Deutschemark:	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3⁹⁄₁₆-3⁷⁄₁₆	3⅝-3½	4-3
French Franc:	3⅝-3½	3½-3⅜	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3½	3⅝-2¼
Swiss Franc:	1½-1¼	1½-1⅜	1⅝-1½	1¹¹⁄₁₆-1⁹⁄₁₆	1½-¼
Yen:	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	½-⅜	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $300.50-300.90 Close: $298.30-298.70 High: $300.40-300.90

Low: $297.10-297.60 AM: $299.00 PM: $298.10

Krugerrand: $300.00-302.00 (£182.25-184.25)

Platinum: $394.00 (£237.90) Silver: $5.965 (£3.615) Palladium: $323.00 (£195.05)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for May 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.2691-3.3159	3.2691-3.2717	1¼-1pr	3¼-2¾pr
Brussels	59.815-60.580	59.815-59.923	21-16pr	58-51pr
Copenhagen	11.062-11.223	11.062-11.070	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Dublin	1.1538-1.1723	1.1564-1.1585	13-7pr	43-33pr
Frankfurt	2.9018-2.9424	2.9018-2.9039	1¼-¾pr	2¼-2¾pr
Lisbon	297.19-300.87	297.19-297.41	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¾pr
Madrid	246.47-249.48	246.47-246.65	71-60pr	198-180pr
Milan	2862.1-2864.7	2862.1-2864.7	57-41pr	184-161pr
Montreal	2.3689-2.3901	2.3689-2.3707	0.54-0.48pr	1.05-0.96pr
New York	1.6455-1.6614	1.6455-1.6462	0.26-0.24pr	0.725-0.695pr
Oslo	12.125-12.257	12.126-12.139	¼-¼pr	1¼-¼pr
Paris	9.7277-9.8550	9.7277-9.7371	3¼-3¼pr	9¼-9pr
Stockholm	12.475-12.634	12.480-12.493	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Tokyo	218.85-221.45	218.85-219.05	1¼-1¼pr	3¼-3¼pr
Vienna	20.418-20.709	20.418-20.434	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Zurich	2.4166-2.4536	2.4166-2.4193	1¼-1¼pr	3¼-3¼pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.5752-1.5765
Austria	12.40-12.41
Belgium (Com)	36.36-36.40
Canada	1.4383-1.4388
Denmark	6.7232-6.7252
France	5.9165-5.9185
Germany	1.7645-1.7650
Hong Kong	7.7490-7.7500
Ireland	1.4215-1.4235
Italy	1739.10-1740.60
Japan	133.05-133.10
Malaysia	3.8675-3.8775
Netherlands	1.9870-1.9875
Norway	7.3595-7.3669
Portugal	180.65-180.75
Singapore	1.6250-1.6300
Spain	149.74-149.80
Sweden	7.5654-7.5729
Switzerland	1.4682-1.4692

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6477-1.6504
Australia dollar	2.5976-2.6004
Bahrain dinar	0.619-0.633
Brazil real*	1.8839-1.8868
China yuan	13.606-13.915
Cyprus pound	0.855-0.875
Finland markka	8.845-8.994
Greece drachma	505.75-517.85
Hong Kong dollar	12.7797-12.7852
India rupee	65.31-66.81
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.5005-0.5135
Malaysia ringgit	6.3783-6.3967
New Zealand dollar	2.0376-2.0437
Pakistan rupee	71.50 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9775-6.1145
Singapore dollar	2.6798-2.6900
S Africa rand (com)	8.321-8.508
U A E dirham	6.030-6.168

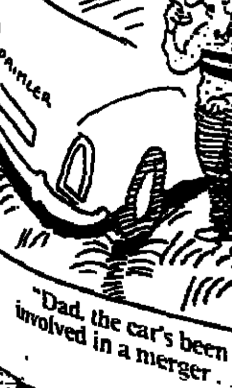
Barclays Treasury • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	519	LASMO	2,563
ASDA Gp	6,823	Legal & Gn	8,544
Abbey Ntl	3,688	Lloyds TSB	6,674
Allied Dom	3,187	LucasVarity	2,820
Allnce & Leic	4,796	Marks Spr	5,226
Amvescap	916	Nat Grid	2,320
AB Foods	603	Nat Power	3,983
Bk of Scot	1,906	*NatWst Bk*	3,553
BAA	2,316	Next	2,424
Barclays	1,493	Norwich U	10,068
Bass	854	Nycomed Amr	127
BAT Inds	4,595	Orange	2,220
BG	5,838	P & O	3,655
Billiton	2,462	Pearson	929
Blue Circle	3,345	PowerGen	1,148
BOC	3,597	Prudential	3,690
Boots	1,396	Railtrack	789
BAe	8,962	Rank Group	2,518
BA	3,445	Reckitt Col	417
Brit Energy	3,695	Reed Intl	5,237
Br Land	723	Rentokil	3,295
BP	9,202	Reuters	4,319
Brit Steel	16,206	Rio Tinto	2,128
BSkyB	1,791	Rolls Royce	7,877
BT	10,342	Royal & Sun	5,158
BTR	8,249	Royal Bk Sct	3,634
Cable Wire	8,998	*Safeway*	3,569
Cadbury	2,582	Sainsbury	7,091
Carlton Cms	1,577	Schroders	152
Centrica	5,050	Scot & New	883
Cm Union	3,445	Scot Power	1,514
Compass Gp	1,580	*Svrn Trent*	2,142
Diageo	8,399	Shell Trans	19,643
EMI	4,315	Siebe	1,505
Energy Gp	1,932	Smiths Ind	1,543
Enterpr Oil	1,190	SmKl Bch	5,642
Gen Acc	325	Std Chartd	4,773
Gen Elec	14,348	Sun Life	477
GKN	1,858	Tesco	4,706
Glaxo Well	3,292	Thames W	1,321
Granada	1,883	Tomkins	2,213
GUS	2,109	Unilever	6,629
GRE	3,977	Utd News	1,440
Hays	959	Utd Utilities	2,862
ICI	2,978	Vodafone	4,661
Kingfisher	6,053	*Whitbread*	2,384
HSBC	4,783	Williams	563
Halifax	1,791	Wolseley	2,916
Ladbroke	1,438	Woolwich	2,224
Land Secs	1,850	Zeneca	759

WALL STREET

	May 7 midday	May 6 close
AMP Inc	39⅝	39⅞
AMR Corp	146	143½
AT & T	59	59⅞
Abbott Labs	71	70⅝
Advanced Micro	25½	25⅝
Aetna Life	80⅝	80½
Ahmanson (HF)	73⅞	75⅝
Air Prod & Chem	87½	87½
AirTouch Comm	51½	52
Albertson's	45⅞	46⅝
Alcan Aluminm	32⅛	32⅝
Allied Signal	44½	44½
Alum Co of Am	75½	76⅝
Amerada Hess	56⅝	57½
AEP	46⅞	46⅞
Amer Express	101½	99½
Amer Genl Corp	66⅝	67½
Amer Home Pr	45½	45
Amer Intl	126⅝	127½
Amer Online	91½	85½
Amer Stores	23½	23⅝
Amer Standard	48⅝	48½
Ameritech	42½	43½
Amgen	57⅞	58½
Amoco	44⅞	45
Andrew Corp	21½	21½
Anheuser-Busch	45⅝	45½
Apple Computer	30⅝	30⅝
Archer Daniels	21	21⅝
Armco	6⅝	6⅝
Armstrng Wrld	82½	82½
Asarco	24½	24½
Atl Richfield	79½	79½
Atmel Corp	19½	19½
Auto Data Pro	64½	64½
Avery Dennison	51½	51⅞
Avon Products	81½	82½
Baker Hughes	41½	42½
Baltim Gas & El	31½	31⅝
Banc One	56⅝	56⅞
BankAmerica	81⅝	82⅝
Bank of NY	57⅝	58
Bankers Tr Crp	129½	130
Bausch & Lomb	51½	51½
Baxter Intl	53½	53½
Bectn Dickinsn	67⅞	69½
Bell Atlantic	95½	96½
BellSouth	63⅝	63½
Best Foods	53	53⅞
Black & Decker	52	51½
Block (H&R)	44½	44⅝
Boeing	50	50⅝
Boise Cascade	37½	37⅝
Boston Scien	72½	72½
Bristol Myrs Sq	105½	107½
Browning Ferris	32⅛	32⅝
Brunswick	31⅝	31⅞
Burlington Nthn	98⅞	99½
CMS Energy Corp	42½	42⅞
CSX	54⅝	54½
CBS Corp	34½	34½
Campbell Soup	53⅞	53⅝
Carolina Pwr	41⅝	42½
Case Corp	61½	62
Caterpillar	55½	55½
Central & SW	26⅞	26⅞
Champion Intl	52⅞	53½
Chase Manhat	139½	139⅝
Chevron Corp	85⅝	85⅞
Chrysler	53⅝	48⅝
Chubb Corp	76½	77½
Cigna Corp	209½	209½
Citicorp	146⅞	147⅞
Clorox	80⅝	80
Coastal Corp	73⅞	73½
Coca Cola	75⅞	76⅝
Coca Cola Ent	37⅞	37½
Colgate-Palm	89	88
Columbia Energy	81	81½
ColumbiaHCA	32½	32½
Compaq Comp	32½	31½
Comp Ass Int	59⅝	60⅝
Conagra	29	29⅝
Cons Edison	43½	44⅝
Cons Nat Gas	56⅝	56⅞
Cooper Inds	68⅞	68⅝
Corning Inc	41½	41⅝
Cwide Credit	45½	46⅝
Crestar Finl	56½	57½
Crown Cork	52⅝	52⅝
Dana Corp	53½	52⅞
Dayton Hudson	43⅞	43½
Deere	57½	56½
Delta Air Lines	112⅞	111½
Deluxe Corp	34½	34½
Digital Equip	59⅝	58⅞
Dillard Dept St	37½	36⅝
Disney (Walt)	120⅝	124⅝
Dominion Res	39½	39½
Donelley (RR)	44½	44½
Dover Corp	39	39½
Dow Chemical	97½	97½
Dow Jones	48⅝	48½
Dresser	52½	52½
Duke Energy	57⅝	57⅝
Dun & Brdstreet	34½	34⅝
Du Pont	74½	79½
Eastman Chem	68⅝	68½
Eastman Kodak	72⅝	75½
Eaton Corp	90⅝	89⅝
Edison Intl	29⅞	29⅞
Elect Data Sys	37⅝	37⅝
Emerson Elec	64½	64½
Engelhard Corp	21½	22⅝
Enron Corp	52½	52½
Enserch	25½	25½
Ethyl Corp	7½	7⅝
Exxon	73⅞	74½
FDX Holding	65½	65½
FMC Corp	75½	76⅝
FPL Group	59½	60½
Fifth Third Banc	51½	50⅞
Fleet Finl Grp	81⅞	82½
Fluor Corp	46⅞	47⅝
Ford Motor	47	45½
Fort James	49½	50½
Fortune Brands	36	36½
Franklin Res	54⅞	55
GTE Corp	57⅝	58⅞
Gannett	66½	66½
Gap Inc Del	51⅝	51⅝
Gateway 2000	56⅝	57⅝
Gen Dynamics	41⅝	41½
Gen Electric	82⅝	83⅝
Gen Mills	67½	67⅞
Gen Motors	68⅞	67½
Gen Reinsurance	220½	222⅝
Gen Signal	42½	42⅝
Genuine Parts	35½	35½
Georgia Pac	78½	78½
Gillette	113½	114½
Glaxo Welle ADR	55⅝	56½
Goodrich (BF)	53½	53⅝
Goodyear Tire	69⅝	70
Great Lakes	48⅝	48⅞
Halliburton	54⅝	55½
Harcourt General	52½	52⅝
Heinz (HJ)	53½	54
Hercules	47½	47⅞
Hershey Foods	70½	71½
Hewlett Packard	74⅝	74½
Hilton Hotels	32½	32½
Home Depot	68½	69⅝
Homestake Mng	11⅝	11½
Honeywell	90½	90⅝
Household Intl	130½	130½
Houston Inds	29⅝	29⅝
Humana	26½	26½
Ikon Office	23½	23½
Illinois Tool	68⅝	68½
Illinova	29½	29½
INCO	16½	16½
Ingersoll Rand	46	45⅞
Inland Steel	28½	28⅝
Intel Corp	81⅞	81½
IBM	116⅝	117⅝
Intl Flav & Fr	49⅝	49½
Intl Paper	52⅝	52⅞
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	69½	69½
Kellogg	40⅝	41½
Kerr-McGee	66⅝	67½
Kimberly-Clark	49½	50½
Kmart	17⅝	18½
Knight-Ridder	58½	58⅞
Lilly (Eli)	65⅞	66⅝
Limited Inc	34½	34½
Lincoln Nat	87⅝	87½
Litton	60½	59⅞
Liz Claiborne	46½	47½
Lockheed Martin	112½	113⅝
Louisiana Pac	20½	20⅝
MCI Comm	49⅝	48⅞
Manpower Inc	43⅝	43½
Marriott Int	33½	33½
Marriott Int A	32½	33
Marsh & McLnn	87⅝	88½
Masco Corp	58⅞	58⅝
May Dept St	62⅝	62⅞
Maytag Corp	50½	50⅝
McDonalds	61⅝	61⅝
McGraw Hill	73½	75½
Mead Corp	35½	35⅝
Meditrust Corp	28⅞	28⅝
Medtronic	50½	50½
Mellon Bk	72½	73½
Merck Inc	115½	115⅝
Mercury Fin	0⅝	0⅝
Merrill Lynch	86⅝	85½
Microsoft	84½	86½
Minnesota Mine	94⅝	93½
Mirage Resorts	23½	22⅝
Mobil Corp	79	79½
Monsanto	53⅝	53½
Morgan (JP)	133⅝	132½
Motorola Inc	55½	55⅝
Mylan Labs	28	27⅝
Natl Semi	20⅝	21½
Natl Service Ind	52½	52⅝
Navistar Int	28⅝	28½
NY Times A	71½	71½
Newmont Mng	30½	31
Nike B	46⅝	46½
NL Industries	21	21½
Nordstrom	65⅝	64½
Norfolk Sthrn	37⅝	33½
Nthn State Pwr	56½	56⅝
Norwest Corp	37½	38½
Occidental Pet	29⅝	29⅝
Office Depot	33½	33½
Oracle	26⅝	26⅝
Oryx Energy Co	26	26½
Owens Corning	40½	40½
PPG Industries	70⅝	70½
PMI Group	80	80⅝
PNC Bank	59⅝	60
PP&L Res	22⅝	22½
Paccar Inc	55⅝	55⅝
Pacificorp	22½	23
Pac Enterprises	38⅝	37⅝
PaineWebber	44½	44⅝
Pall Corp	19½	19⅞
Parker Hannifin	44⅝	45½
Peco Energy	22⅝	22½
Penney (JC)	70⅝	69½
Pennzoil	64½	64½
Pepsico	38½	38⅝
Pfizer	108½	108⅝
Pharm & Upjhn	41½	41½
Phelps Dodge	66	65⅞
Philip Morris	38⅝	39½
Phillips Pet	48½	48⅞
Pitney Bowes	48½	48⅝
Polaroid	42½	48½
Procter & Gmbl	80⅝	80⅝
Providian	58½	58⅝
Pub Serv E & G	33½	33⅝
Quaker Oats	53	53⅝
Ralston Purina	105½	105½
Raychem Corp	39½	39⅝
Raytheon B	55⅞	56½
Reebok Intl	28½	28⅝
Reliastar Fin	45	45½
Reynolds Metals	65½	65⅝
Rockwell Intl	57½	58
Rohm & Haas	110½	110½
Royal Dutch	57½	58⅝
Rubbermaid	28⅝	28⅝
SBC Comms	42⅝	42⅝
Safeco Corp	47⅝	48½
St Paul's Cos	85½	85½
Sara Lee Corp	59½	59½
Schering Plough	81⅝	81½
Schlumberger	82½	83½
Seagram	40½	41½
Sears Roebuck	57½	57⅝
Shell Trans	45	44½
Sherwin Wllms	34	34⅝
Silicon Graphics	12½	13
Snap-On-Tools	43½	43⅝
Southern Co	26	26½
Southtrust	41½	41½
Sprint Corp	67½	68
Stanley Works	50⅝	50½
Starwood H & R	51½	50⅝
Sun Company	42½	42½
Sun Microsys	42	41⅞
Suntrust	78	78⅝
Supervalu	42½	42½
Synovus Fin	33⅝	33½
Sysco Corp	24½	25
TRW Inc	53½	53½
TIG Hldgs	24⅞	25
Tandy Corp	47½	48½
Temple Inland	64½	64⅝
Tenet Healthcare	36⅝	36½
Tenneco	43	43
Texaco	60⅞	61⅝
Texas Inst	65½	64
Texas Utilities	38½	38½
Textron	78	78
Thermo Elect	38½	38½
Time Warner	78½	78⅝
Times-Mirror A	62½	62⅝
Timken	38½	38½
Torchmark	44½	44½
Toys R Us	29½	28½
Transamerica	114⅝	115
Travelers	59⅝	60
Tribune	67½	67⅝
UST Inc	27⅝	28
US Bancorp	121½	123
UAL	83½	82⅝
Unitrin	69½	69⅝
US Inds	27½	28½
US West Comm	52⅝	52½
US West Media	38½	38½
USAirways Group	66½	65½
USX Marathon	36⅝	36½
Unicom	33½	33⅝
Unilever NV	74½	75½
Union Camp	61½	61
Union Carbide	52½	53½
Union Pacific	54⅝	55½
Unisys Corp	23⅝	22½
United Tech	96½	97½
Unocal Corp	39½	40
VF Corp	50½	50⅝
Wal-Mart Stores	50½	49⅝
Warner-Lambert	186½	187⅝
Waste Mngmt	34½	34½
Wells Fargo	370	370⅝
Weyerhaeuser	57⅝	57½
Whirlpool	69½	70½
Whitman	19⅝	19½
Winn Dixie	37⅝	37½
Witco Corp	38⅝	38½
Woolworth	21½	21½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	91	91½
Xerox	112½	113
Xilinx Inc	46⅝	47



"Dad, the car's been involved in a merger .

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

ECONOMIC VIEW  ANATOLE KALETSKY

Duisenberg should learn lesson on rates from Fed

Euroland must resist higher interest if it is to live up to initial enthusiasm

Now that we know who is going to run the new euro, the next question is how it is going to be run. This question is obviously much more important than the first one about personalities. It is also more complicated. But financial markets have concluded that the answer is simplicity itself.

The EMU-zone, or Euroland, as we must now learn to call it, is going to be the world's strongest economy. The euro will be the world's strongest currency, rising strongly against the dollar, the pound and the yen. And, of course, the European Central Bank, notwithstanding last Sunday's political shenanigans over appointments, will be the "most independent" and "most hawkish" central bank in the world.

This, at least, is what market commentators have been unanimously proclaiming all week. And, for once, the bullish economists and analysts seem to have convinced a clear majority of investors, fund managers and corporate treasurers around the world. In the past month, the mark, French franc, lira and other future components of the euro have jumped by 5 per cent against the dollar, 7 per cent against the pound and even more against the friendless yen.

Such moves could, of course, be just blips or technical corrections, after the big advances of the dollar and pound in the previous few months. They could, on the other hand, reflect a fundamental reassessment of the relative strengths of the American and European economies and of Europe's industrial competitiveness and even perhaps of the emergence of a new economic and political superpower, whose currency must ultimately be accorded the same respect and prominence in the global economic system as the dollar.

Let us consider these two explanations in turn. It could be that the sudden upsurge of enthusiasm for European currencies, which has notably failed to embrace European shares and bonds, is merely a reflection of overwrought expectations about an imminent rise in German interest rates, rather than a statement of deeper and longer-term belief in the prospects for the European economies and the whole single currency adventure.

Some of the present enthusiasm for euros certainly seems to grow from the expectation that Germany and France will soon start to raise their interest rates to converge with the rates in Italy, Spain, Finland and the Republic of Ireland, while monetary policy in America remains unchanged and British rates start to fall. To the extent that this is the basis for the euro's new-found strength, it is likely to prove a weak foundation, not only for the euro itself but for the whole single currency project.

The European monetary tightening expected by investors may not in itself be very large, but it stands in dramatic contrast to the market's views of about monetary policy in America and Britain. Futures markets are now counting on an increase in Germany's three-month rates from 3.6 per cent today to 3.7 per cent in June, 3.9 per cent in September, 4.1 per cent in December and 4.25 per cent by March next year. During the same period American three-month rates are expected to remain unchanged, while British rates are predicted to fall from the present 7.4 per cent to 6.9 per cent.

Why do investors think that monetary policy will be tightened in Euroland, where inflation is running at about 1 per cent and unemployment has only just begun to inch back from record levels, while interest rates remain on hold or even fall a bit in America (and Britain), where inflation is significantly higher, domestic demand is strong and unemployment has been strongly and steadily declining for more than five years?

One popular, but silly answer, is that the central bankers who have now been appointed to run the euro are notably hawkish. The ECB, it is said, will be determined to establish its credibility and there is no better way of doing this than to raise interest rates and preside over the strongest currency in the world. Furthermore, according to some of the more excitable market commentators, the Bundesbank (which can still run Europe's monetary policy until the ECB is formally constituted on July 1) may even want to raise interest rates as early as next week to show its displeasure about the way that the French Government dared to question the prerogative of the central bankers' cabal, backed by the German Government, to choose the first President of the ECB.

These arguments are silly for two reasons. First, because the Bundesbank, along with the other central banks, is run by responsible public servants, whose primary concern is to manage the European economy, not to engage in political vendettas or mind-games with financial markets. Central bankers are not hawks and doves, with arbitrarily pre-ordained attitudes to monetary policy. Still less are they overgrown children prone to outbreaks of pique when politicians refuse to give them exactly what they want. The second reason why neither the Bundesbank nor the ECB is likely to be in any hurry to raise interest rates is much more important and leads to the bigger question of whether a fundamental reassessment of Europe's economic and political prospects is now justified.

The ECB does want to win credibility during its first years of operation. But the people it needs to impress are European politicians and voters, not teenage scribblers and traders in financial markets. The ECB may have been set up as the world's most independent central bank — and yesterday's statements before the European Parliament by the ECB nominees showed that they would fight hard against the transparency and credibility expected from central bankers in America and Britain. But everything in the history of Europe and of EMU implies that even the ECB will quickly be brought under political control, or at least will be turned into a cockpit of political tensions, if it fails to deliver good economic performance.

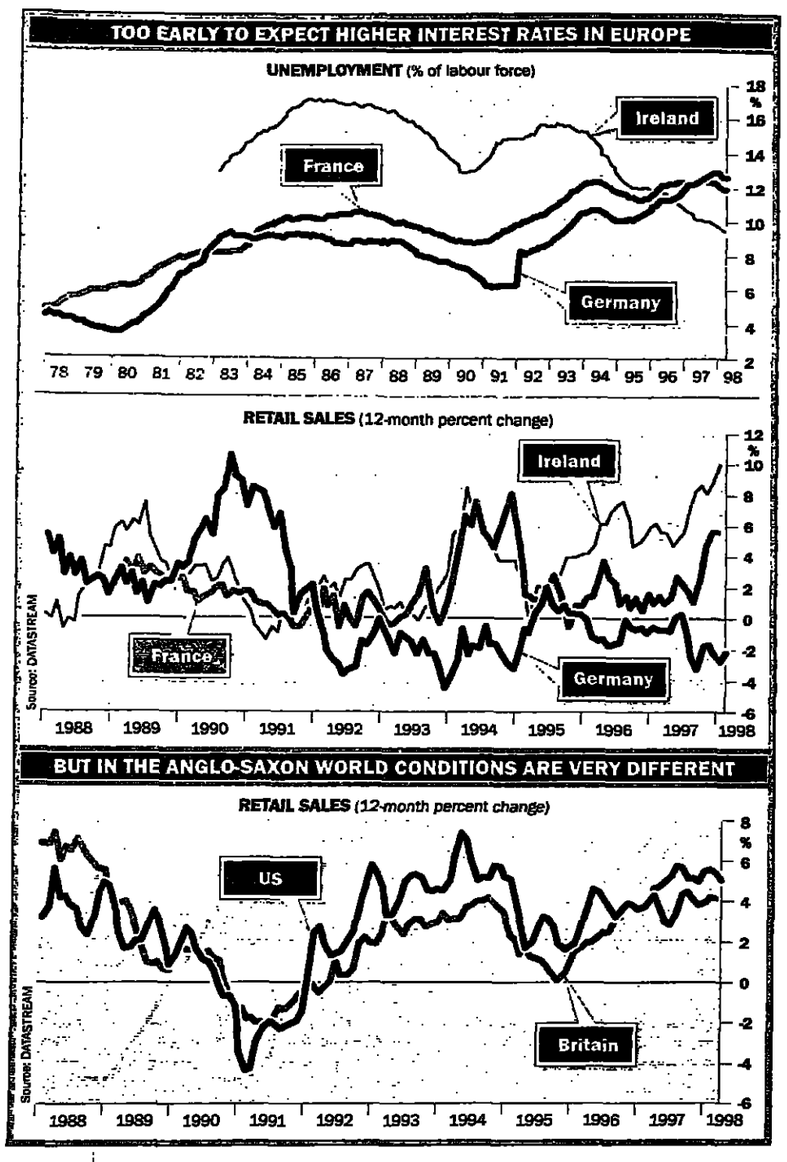
The reason the Bundesbank has rarely been challenged by politicians in Germany was not because of its constitution, but because it was seen by the public as doing a good job. Exactly the same will be true of the ECB. And the public may not always have the same view as financial markets about what constitutes a "good job". Specifically, public opinion will judge the ECB's performance in the next 12 to 18 months by its ability to maintain the steady expansion of the European economy and the decline in unemployment that has only just begun. This growing prosperity will naturally have to be combined with a rock-solid performance on price stability, but that will present no difficulty given the high levels of unemployment and depressed conditions across most of Europe today.

Some analysts argue that Euroland is now in a strong, almost irresistible, upswing, comparable with the economic recovery in America after 1991. Figures on manufacturing production, exports and industrial orders have indeed been fairly strong, especially in the peripheral countries such as the Irish Republic and Finland. But these countries are irrelevant to any broad judgment about Euroland as a whole. The Irish boom is much discussed as if it were a major problem for the future stability of the euro. Rarely is it pointed out that the Irish economy accounts for just 0.9 per cent of Euroland's total GDP. For the ECB to react to conditions in the Irish Republic would be rather like the Fed or the Bank of England raising interest rates solely because Long Island or Knightsbridge were experiencing property booms.

Looking at the core countries of EMU — Germany, France and Italy — which between them account for 74 per cent of Euroland's GDP, the evidence of a durable recovery in domestic demand is still thin on the ground.

Retail sales are still lower than they were a year ago in Germany and have only recently recovered in France and Italy from extremely depressed levels. Above all, unemployment has only been falling for five months in Germany and for four months in France and Italy. This presents a huge contrast to the conditions in America in February 1994 when the Federal Reserve Board announced its first "pre-emptive" rate increase from 3 to 3.25 per cent. At that point US unemployment had been falling continuously for 19 months.

If Wim Duisenberg wants to command the respect in Europe that Alan Greenspan enjoys in the US, he will have to behave with the same circumspection.



Corporate raider who has driven away with biggest prize

Oliver August considers what Kirk Kerkorian will do now after Chrysler

The Daimler-Chrysler merger has created many winners. The investment bank advisers will get $200 million in fees. Jürgen Schrempp and Robert Eaton are set to become the best-paid executives in their home countries. And Chrysler employees will be able to buy a Mercedes Benz with a company discount.

But the biggest winner is Kirk Kerkorian, the corporate raider who took a large Chrysler stake in 1990 and has seen the value of his investment multiply by a factor of ten. He bought the shares at $6. Daimler is paying $60. His holding will make him the second-biggest shareholder of the combined car group, second only to Deutsche Bank's 12 per cent stake.

Mr Kerkorian will swap his 14 per cent Chrysler stake for a 7.5 per cent DaimlerChrysler stake. The transaction will make him $1.7 billion richer. Even for someone as wealthy as Mr Kerkorian this must count as a Christmas-come-early event. The latest Forbes list of the super-rich ranks him as the 26th wealthiest American with a fortune of $3.7 billion, just ahead of George Soros's $3.5 billion. At 80, he is also one of America's oldest billionaires on a list packed with software whiz-kids.

The Daimler takeover of Chrysler will, nevertheless, have roused mixed emotions for Mr Kerkorian. In 1995 he attempted his own takeover of the car group, when he tabled a $22 billion hostile bid and teamed up with Lee Iacocca, the legendary former Chrysler chairman who was forced out by the board in 1992.

The two were snookered when the car company applied a takeover defence that is only available to a few global giants. Every bank rumoured to be thinking of financing the Kerkorian-Iacocca deal received a call from Chrysler threatening to cut off relations. This treatment worked on Wall Street greats, such as Bear Stearns, as well as on the nimble leveraged buyout specialists, such as Kohlberg Kravis Robert. Chrysler had spread its banking work around and was able to call in many favours.

The banks simply ignored Kerkorian. His position was not helped by the rough treatment some of the banks had received from him during previous deals. In 1994 he accused Credit Lyonnais of thwarting one of his takeover deals. "I am flabbergasted that the eighth-largest bank in the world would obstruct justice by removing documents and interfer with the discovery of a legal proceeding," he said.

The Chrysler-Kerkorian stand-off was resolved two years ago when Mr Kerkorian promised not to mount another bid for five years. In return, one of his associates was appointed to the board and Chrysler agreed to spend its cash to buy back shares and boost the stock price. Mr Kerkorian's main criticism of the Chrysler board had been its big cash pile. Chrysler claimed it needed the cash to survive the next recession. With hindsight, Mr Kerkorian was right to bemoan the board's conservatism during the continuing boom.

The takeover attempt also had a second goal, namely to force the board to form international alliances. Mr Kerkorian said he did not want to interfere in day-to-day running of the company — although the spited Mr Iacocca was, of course, planning to do just that. Mr Kerkorian did, however, want to force Mr Eaton's hand and engineer pacts with overseas competitors. He believed that only through global diversification could the car company further boost sales. It has taken Mr Eaton three years to come round to his point of view.

What will Mr Kerkorian do next? Will Mr Eaton's tormentor finally go away, now that Chrysler has done everything Mr Kerkorian asked for?

Mr Kerkorian's long business career gives many clues, but no definite answer. He is a man with a great knack for cutting corners, especially when it comes to taxes. If he sold his DaimlerChrysler stake now, he would have to make exorbitant capital gains tax payments on the share price increase from $6 to $60.

Being 80, Mr Kerkorian must realise that at some point he will face the Grim Reaper, God's own downsizing corporate raider. In America, death holds many a tax advantage. There is no capital gains tax on inherited paper profits. Hence many elderly Americans are reluctant to sell stocks. Once the stocks have passed to their heirs, the clock is reset. The heirs only pay tax on the share price increase starting the day the rich uncle died. It must be noted that a month ago Mr Kerkorian followed Charlie Chaplin's example and became a father at 80. He also has two grown-up children.

But much of Mr Kerkorian's activity during his career also suggests a quick sell-off. He is no long-term investor even if he has stopped treating companies like Monopoly board pieces. Mr Kerkorian likes cashing out when a gamble has paid off. In the 1980s he sold MGM/United Artists, the Hollywood studio, and then bought it back again.

The entertainment sector rather than car manufacturing has been Mr Kerkorian's main interest over the last decade. He has been a director of MGM Grand, the Las Vegas casino and world's largest hotel, since 1987. Tracinda, the company based in Las Vegas he controls, now holds a 65 per cent stake in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Tracinda has continued to raise its stake over the past few years.

His continued appetite for entertainment companies has made him a natural bidder for EMI, the British record label that is auctioning itself off. Tracinda has tried to dampen speculation, but Mr Kerkorian is understood to have contacted EMI's advisers. If a bidding war for EMI did erupt then the ageing corporate raider would be better equipped for the customary close-quarter combat than the other suitors.

Edgar Bronfman, the Seagram chief executive, may have chewed through many takeover case studies at business school. But Mr Kerkorian actually participated in even more takeovers. And this time, he won't let the prey tie the bankers' hands.


Kirk Kerkorian bought his Chrysler shares at $6

LAW 39
Court of Appeal
Appeal
over following the inspector's
termination of

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Glass darkly

WE HAVE all been there. You get to the DIY store for that last tin of paint to finish the job, and they won't have any more in for weeks. It is strangely comforting to learn that the mighty Daiwa Europe is having the same problem with its new headquarters on Wood Street. The French firm that makes the clear glass cladding has gone bust, and the liquidators are refusing to allow any more out of the factory, leaving much of the building open to the elements. Daiwa is fast running out of ideas, because there is no chance of completion by the end of the year, when the securities house plans to move.

"At the moment it's lawyer talking to lawyer, and French lawyers aren't easy to talk to," says my source lugubriously. "The whole thing's crazy." There is even a plan, hatched out of sheer desperation, that someone should buy the company from the liquidator, take the glass and sell the business on for whatever. "It's been mooted," my man confirms.



"Dad, the car's been involved in a merger . . ."

☐ *ONE OF the big players during the last round of nonsense on Wall Street is back. Fred Joseph, a colleague of Michael Milken at Drexel Burnham Lambert during the junk bond years, is joining Furman Selz. Joseph was famous for appearing, Rambo-style, in hunting gear with a crossbow on the cover of Fortune, but then, this was the late 1980s.*

Prix fixe

IF YOU had worked for years building up a business and then saw a portion of it sold so cheaply that you could have found buyers 123 times over, you would have a few words to say to the brokers. Words like "You're" and "sacked" come to mind. But Groupe Flo, the French restaurant chain, is remarkably relaxed about the share offering in Paris which was swamped by demand from retail investors. The oversubscription from institutions was a more languid 50 to 60 times.

The shares were priced by Crédit Lyonnais, the owner of the stake, and by BT Alex Brown International, the renamed NatWest Securities. "We're very happy about it," says Jean-Paul Brayer, Groupe Flo's managing director, but as they were not his shares, perhaps it wasn't his problem. Surely the massive excess demand suggests the whole thing went too cheap? "Maybe," says Brayer, with a Gallic shrug.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Stark relief

THERE is little love lost between the German Finance Ministry and various charities such as Christian Aid over debt relief to poor countries. Jürgen Stark, State Secretary at the ministry, has been needled by suggestions that the Germans, who benefited from a 1953 London agreement over war debt and then did rather well on the economic front, as I recall, are now less generous than the rest of the developed world. Yesterday the two sides met at the German Embassy in London. "It was very cordial. It opened up dialogue," says one of those present, from which I deduce that not much was achieved.

The mood might not have been improved by the peremptory way Stark gave the charities just 48 hours notice of the meeting. They are going ahead with a demonstration at next week's G8 gathering in Birmingham, at which tens of thousands of supporters will form a human chain around the conference centre.

☐ *AN outbreak of fence-sitting from Viridian, the daft name that now conceals Northern Ireland Electricity, which says an end to the Troubles would mean more jobs and greater prosperity but does not support a Yes vote in the forthcoming referendum. "I am not sure that we would want to align ourselves with one side or another," said a spokesman.*

No go logo

I RECEIVE an unbelievably precious and pompous letter from Barclays Bank about its new B2 direct selling operation, after I teased them about its silly name the other day. You will have seen the blue logo around the place as part of an advertising campaign. Barclays is demanding that the said logo is treated with the utmost respect.

We are told the maximum and minimum size at which it can be reproduced. "The logo needs as much space around it as possible and should not be violated by text or images." I am enjoined, so no sticking Mickey Mouse ears on it, then. There is even a little diagram showing how much space the sacred icon must be granted, which I reproduce. "Never redraw it, never sketch it," it says. "In a nutshell, handle with care." How about we just chuck it in the bin and never mention the company again? Done. Still, nothing about not running it upside down first . . .

MARTIN WALLER


The new Barclays logo as you are forbidden to see it

Dublin firm's £51m bid takes Jeyes

By Matthew Barbour

JEYES, the household products group, has agreed a £51.25 million bid from IWP, the personal care and household products company.

The Dublin company has offered 250p per share, against the 162p at which Jeyes traded at May 5, before it announced that it had received an approach.

Under the terms of the offer, Jeyes's shareholders will be offered 50 IWP shares, valued on May 6 at 365p each, in exchange for 73 Jeyes shares. IWP is also offering Jeyes shareholders 250p cash or loan note alternatives.

Jeyes's directors, who own 1 per cent of the share capital, have accepted the offer and IWP has also received acceptances from shareholders representing 32.3 per cent.

IWP embarked on a major expansion last June when it acquired an 80 per cent stake in Constance Carroll Holdings, the UK cosmetics company, for £38.5 million.

Joe Moran, managing director of IWP, said he was anxious to build on IWP's existing base in Britain and Holland, and to develop manufacturing operations in Eastern Europe and the US.

Jeyes produces a range of well-known branded products such as Jeyes Fluid, Parazone and Bloo. Since David Callear, chief executive, joined the company in 1994, Jeyes has moved from being a world brand into a niche operator, concentrating on markets in the UK and Germany.

Prior to Mr Callear's appointment, the share price had fallen from a high of over 500p in 1992 to less than 150p. At Tuesday's share price Jeyes is valued at more than £38 million. Last year the company reported pre-tax profits of £2.4 million.

Jeyes shares yesterday closed up 54p at 241p.

BARRY GREENWOOD



Bill Simpson, left, and Barry McKenzie, finance director, said that sales in the UK beds division grew 10 per cent to £125 million last year

ABP makes £98m offer for American Port Services

By Fraser Nelson

AMERICAN Port Services, the London-quoted company that runs airports and docks in the US, has ended six months of bid speculation by admitting that it has received a £98 million takeover from Associates British Ports.

Tim Chadwick, founder and chairman of APS, stands to make £3.53 million by agreeding to the deal. His boardroom colleagues would make £1.57 million in cash by selling their shares.

The deal stands to scupper any ambitions that Michael Kingshott, chairman of rival Jacobs Holdings, had to mount his own bid for APS. His company has been steadily building a 10 per cent stake, and was rumoured to have been planning a cash bid since September last year.

Associated British Ports, now capitalised at £1.4 billion, has no operations outside the UK. It has proposed a 190p-a-share cash offer — a 16 per cent premium to APS's closing price on Wednesday and a 65 per cent premium to the shares' 1998 low.

APS shares have not fully recovered from the profit warning in December when it blamed a sharp drop in car imports on the currency crisis in the Far East — where it does most of its business.

It has been trying to fight back by shipping rice from California to South Korea.

It recently spent £5 million on a tranche of airport management contracts which belonged to Johnson Controls. It is also developing an airport in Branson, Missouri. These would all pass to Associated British Ports. City analysts said the deal could herald a fresh wave of takeovers in the ports sector, which has missed out on bids being made for railways and airports.

Associated British Ports has itself been the centre of bid speculation, which had taken its shares from 300p to 375p. They slipped 6p to 369p yesterday. APS shares jumped 14p to 179p.

Jacobs Holdings, which bought most its shares in APS for 160p, will make a profit exceeding £2 million if the deal goes through. Its shares advanced 3p to 92½p yesterday.

APS floated in London in 1995 as Benecia Ports, because there are no quoted port operators in the United States.

Two years ago, it became the largest port company in America after acquisitions arranged by Luke Johnson, founder of Pizza Express.

Mr Johnson has remained as a non-executive director, and is expected to make just under £1 million from selling his stake.

O'Reilly company incurs loss

FITZWILTON, the Dublin-based investment company that Tony O'Reilly, chairman, is planning to take private, incurred a loss last year following its supermarkets deal with Safeway (Sarah Cunningham writes).

The company, which owns 16.34 per cent of Waterford Wedgwood, made a pre-tax loss of Ir£7.62 million (£6.35 million), compared with a profit of Ir£15.2 million in 1997, after selling its interest in the Wellworth supermarkets to the joint venture it set up last summer. It also sold 21 smaller stores, not included in the joint venture, to Musgraves. The Wellworths branches are now being renamed Safeways.

Fitzwilton said that trading at Safeway Stores (Ireland), continues to be affected by the refurbishing and restructuring of the business, although sales have improved at the two stores which are finished.

Silentnight furnishes 16% advance

By Sarah Cunningham

SILENTNIGHT, the beds and cabinet-making business, ended a comfortable year with pre-tax profit 16 per cent higher at £16.6 million.

In the 52 weeks to January 31, turnover was 8 per cent higher at £229 million as sales at the UK beds division grew 10 per cent to £125.2 million.

US sales grew 8 per cent to £26.6 million, and, while sales in the German market fell 19 per cent and profit 61 per cent, partly because of the strength of sterling, there have been signs recently of an improvement in trade.

Bill Simpson, chief executive, said that, despite its purchase of Rest Assured, the bedding business, in January, the group would still consider further acquisitions.

He said "We have made a good start to 1998 with growth in most of our key markets. We fully expect to improve further on last year's record results."

Earnings per share were 15 per cent higher at 24.89p (21.66p) and the company will pay a final dividend of 8.2p a share (7p), giving a total for the year of 11.5p (10p).

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

US productivity rise slows in first quarter

THE productivity of American businesses grew at its weakest pace in the first quarter since the summer of 1996 amid sharp gains in worker compensation and hours worked, the Labor Department said yesterday. Productivity, or hourly output per worker hour, outside the farm sector, rose at a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 0.2 per cent after a smaller than previously-estimated 1.4 per cent gain in the fourth quarter of 1997. Healthy growth in productivity is seen as key to maintaining steady, non-inflationary growth because it helps businesses boost production without raising costs.

Unit-labour costs, a closely-watched inflation gauge, rose 3.8 per cent in the first quarter, matching the fourth-quarter gain, the biggest since a 4 per cent rise in the third quarter of 1996. The number of hours logged by workers rose 5 per cent the biggest gain since a 5.9 per cent rise in the spring of 1994. Workers' inflation-adjusted compensation rose to 3.5 per cent (previously 3.1 per cent).

Abbeycrest shines again

ABBEYCREST, Britain's largest designer and manufacturer of gold and silver jewellery, yesterday saw its profits shine for the sixth year in a row. The company reported pre-tax profits in the six months to March up 17 per cent on last year at £4.18 million. A drop in sales, down 1 per cent on last year, was attributed to a 19 per cent fall in the relative price of gold. Earnings per share, at 12.2p, are up 24 per cent on last year. The board has recommended a final dividend of 3p per share (2.5p last time), making a total dividend of 4.5p (3.8).

Sanderson Group up

SANDERSON GROUP, the computer services company which changed its name from Sanderson Electronics last November, reported interim pre-tax profits of £4.05 million, up 16 per cent on last year. Turnover was £33.4 million, up 4 per cent. Paul Thompson, the chairman, said the group had been affected particularly badly by the strong pound, but that changes made last year had improved the overall performance. Earnings per share are up 5 per cent at 6.2p, and the interim dividend is up 12.5 per cent to 2.7p.

Essex Furniture setback

THE death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and the uncertainty caused by the general election were blamed by Essex Furniture, the furniture retailer, for a sales downturn. The company reported a fall in pre-tax profits from £920,000 to £913,000 in the year to December 31 on sales down from £34.9 million to £34 million. Earnings rose from 5.02p to 5.09p and the final dividend rises from 2.1p to 2.2p taking the total up from 3.6p to 3.85p. The company is to change its name to Furniture Workshop, the name under which 30 of its 34 outlets trade.

Acquisitions boost Lynx

A STRING of recent acquisitions by Lynx, the computer software and services group, contributed to strong growth in the six months to March 31. Pre-tax profits rose to £5.53 million from £3.7 million on turnover that increased to £80.4 million from £53.9 million. Earnings rose to 3.65p a share from 2.85p. The interim dividend is increased to 0.55p a share from 0.5p. Recent acquisitions included Globelle, a network services company bought for £3 million, and Clifton Reed Training, now Lynx IT Training, for £2.1 million.

NAB's 'creditable result'

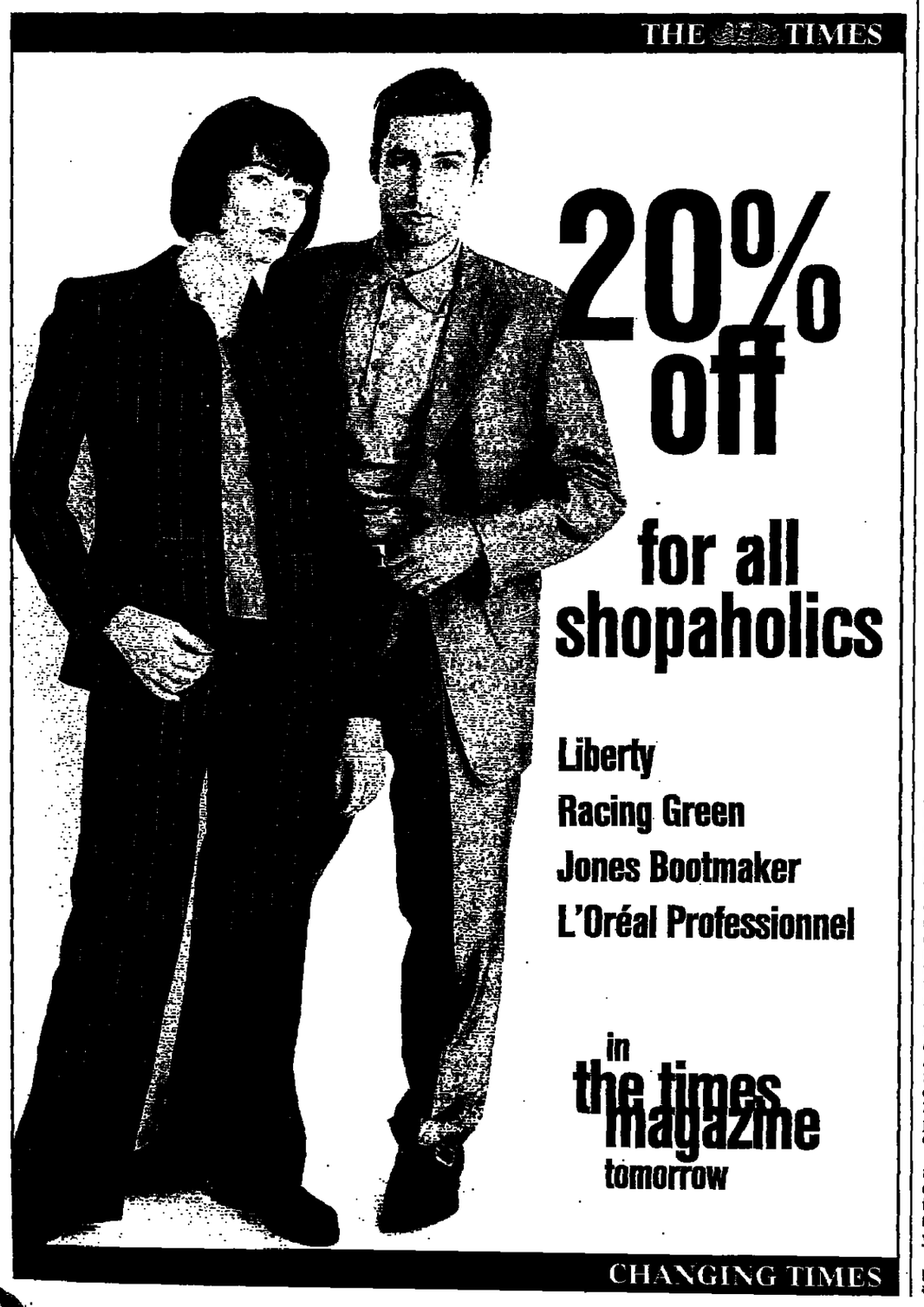
NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK (NAB), Australia's largest bank, suffered a fall in half-year net profits of 15.9 per cent to A$958 million (£368 million) after A$229 million restructuring charges. However the dividend rises from 46 to 49 cents. In Britain, the bank owns the Yorkshire, Clydesdale and Northern, and the National Irish Bank. NAB's European business raised profits by 14.4 per cent to A$246 million. Don Argus, the managing director, said: "Considering the major changes underway this is a highly creditable result."

Avon Rubber sales up

AVON RUBBER, the engineering group, raised profits before tax and exceptionals from £8.5 million to £10.5 million in the six months to March 28, on sales of £128.7 million (£126.2 million). Earnings per share rose from 28.6p to 26.5p. The dividend is 6.6p (6.15p). The company said: "Despite the strength of sterling, the new investments, combined with a good order position in the automotive components division and improved market focus in the technical products division, make the board confident of further progress."

Future Integrated falls

SHARES in Future Integrated, the AIM-listed telecoms group, fell from 82p to 65½p yesterday on news that it will not meet market forecasts for the year to this month and will break even. The group lost £572,000 in the 12 months to May last year but expects to match forecasts for the period to May next year. Accounting problems and higher investment than budgeted were blamed for the problems this year. Some of the problems were embedded in the group's accounting systems and took longer to resolve than was first expected.



Sales jump 40% at First Leisure

By Dominic Walsh

SHARES in First Leisure rose 28p to to 378½p yesterday after the group revealed that first-half sales from continuing businesses were 40 per cent up on a year ago.

In a statement, the group said that comparable sales growth in its three core divisions was encouraging, and overall trading in units opened recently was in line with expectations.

Both the nightclubs and bars and family entertainment divisions reported a 7 per cent jump in comparable sales, while health and fitness lifted total turnover by £16 million to more than £21 million thanks largely to the acquisition of the Riverside business. However, the group warned that a fire at the Royal Berkshire club in March could add £1 million to this year's insurance costs.

The resorts division, which has just been put up for sale through Lazards, the merchant bank, was affected by dire weather over both the Christmas and Easter holidays, cutting like-for-like sales by 2 per cent. Potential bidders have two more weeks in which to submit indicative offers for the business which should fetch at least £100 million.

The owners of Blackpool Pleasure Beach and at least two venture capital-backed buyout teams are expected to bid for all or part of the business.

Analysts upgrade forecasts for Adidas-Salomon

By George Sivell

ANALYSTS have upgraded full-year forecasts for the recently merged Adidas-Salomon sports group after it reported a surge in sales and profits for the first quarter.

Adidas also revealed a one-off charge of DM723 million (£250 million) for the Salomon deal, which it described as a technical accounting measure that sent the company into a first quarter loss of DM533 million.

Nevertheless, Robert Louis-Dreyfus, the managing board chairman, said he expected Adidas would pay a dividend for 1998. The managing board expects to pay out about 15 or 20 per cent of the group's profit after extraordinary costs as a dividend.

Adidas-Salomon said that first quarter sales rose 58 per cent to DM2.7 billion and forecast that sales would continue to grow throughout the year.

First quarter profits rose 23 per cent to DM299 million and first quarter earnings rose from DM3.67 to DM4.75. Sales of Adidas sports footwear and clothing rose 38 per cent to DM2.35 billion.

Sales of Salomon winter sports equipment, hiking boots and skates, rose 28 per cent to DM350 million.

Analysts upgraded full-year forecasts for earnings to DM15.45 from a previous DM14.65. Adidas-Salomon said it expects continuing high growth for the rest of the year.



Louis-Dreyfus: profits up

Capital pays £18.2m for Red Dragon

By Chris Ayres

CAPITAL RADIO, the group that was scuppered in its attempt to take over Virgin Radio by Chris Evans, the disc jockey, yesterday bought Red Dragon Radio for £18.25 million — its second acquisition in less than a week (Chris Ayres writes).

Dragon, which broadcasts to South Wales and includes the stations Red Dragon FM (top 40 hits) and Touch AM (classic hits), was bought by Capital on a debt and cash-free basis from Emap, the media group. It follows the acquisition last Friday of Xfm, the London alternative music station.

David Mansfield, chief executive of Capital, said: "Red Dragon is a successful station whose profitability per ownership point compares favourably with our other regional stations." Radio companies are allocated ownership points to stop them dominating the market. The acquisitions of Dragon and Xfm give Capital 11.2 per cent of the market out of a maximum of 15 per cent.

Dragon last year made operating profits of £1.3 million on a turnover of £4.1 million. Its net assets were nearly £800,000.

The Scottish Provident Institution

The 160th Annual General Meeting of members of the Scottish Provident Institution will be held on Tuesday 26th May 1998 at 12 noon in the Caledonian Hotel, Princes Street, Edinburgh to consider the Accounts and Balance Sheet and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors, to elect Directors, to determine the remuneration of the Directors and to re-elect the Auditors and authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address on request.

By order of the Board of Directors.

G Henderson
Secretary
7-11 Melville Street
Edinburgh
EH3 7YZ
1st May 1998

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Equities halve early losses

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1998 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
646	505	Allied Domecq	627	+ 6½	4.0	15.1
412½	295	Bulmer (H P)	398	+ 16	5.3	10.9
42½	21½	Burn Stewart	31½			9.9
764	432	Diageo	731	+ 11	2.5	31.9
9980	7165	Glenmorangie A	798		2.1	18.3
1295	958	Highland Distil	1313½		3.6	14.5
2450p	1900	Matthew Clark	2200		12.2	6.5
39½	39½	Morgan W	42½	- 1½	9.1	
2021½	1368½	SA Breweries	1968½	+ 28½	1.6	

BANKS

1609½	1178½	ABN-AMRO	1465½	- 46½	2.2	20.7
1345	1010	Abbey Nat	1185	+ 10	3.5	16.9
1033	585	Alliance & Leic	852	- 10	3.1	17.2
950p	587p	Allied Irish	848½	- 10	3.2	20.6
458½	378½	Anz Nmg 2	420½	+ 6	4.8	
5416½	3881½	Bank America	4343½	- 178½		
813	431	Bank Scotland	715	- 23½	1.7	19.1
1995	1068	Barclays	1758	- 26	2.6	16.3
1309	916½	Bk of Ireland	1228	- 32	1.7	27.5
2102½	6750p	Cabora	8925	- 169½		
1671½	1565½	Commerzbk	1671½	- 18½	3.2	
5459	2984	Dbk Ishr Nse Y	3989	- 3½	1.0	
3288½	2588½	Deutsche Bk	3206½	+ 68½	1.2	
1208½	1153½	Espirito Santo	1184½	- 12½	3.1	
521	345½	Fdl Bank Y	521	+ 5	1.2	636
2073	1294	HSBC	1774	- 36½	3.5	14.2
2002	1337	HSBC Hk	1672	- 49	3.7	13.4
1000	700½	Halifax	778½	- 7½	2.8	15.6
842½	642½	Irish Permt	810	- 20	2.2	12.6
1090	698	Lloyds TSB	883	- 6½	2.4	23.7
916½	779½	Nat Aust Bk	862½	+ 16½	4.3	
1241	751	Nat West	1218	- 12	3.1	25.0
673	575	Northern Rock	667½	- 2	3.2	22.9
1098	565	Rpl Bk Scot	986	- 5½	2.7	18.5
1068	926	Stand Chartrd	997	- 6½	2.8	14.0
5764½	2164½	Wells Fargo	5764½		1.9	
438	385½	Westpac	404½	+ 7½	3.4	13.9
400	308	Woolwich	336½	+ 3½	3.5	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1180	873	Bass'A'	1108	+ 26	3.1	19.8
61½	50½	Bk for the Bt	57		4.2	17.0
163½	144½	Budgnd Bre	163½		5.4	14.4
144½	110	City Coree Restr	140½	+ 1	2.5	21.6
1140	581	Compass Gp	1019	- 19	1.2	35.4
324½	280½	Eldridge P 'A'	334½		2.3	16.9
394½	251½	Enterprise Inns	365	+ 2½	2.6	20.1
475	425	Forte Sh 'A'	472½		2.8	15.2
464½	400	Grassmkt Gp	476	+ 3½	4.4	11.9
760	676½	Greene King	711		3.8	14.6
2859p	1975p	Greenalls Grp	2841½	+ 1	2.8	37.3
2500	1900	Gresset Chasr Gen	2375		1.5	23.0
2595	2114½	Hardy Hanok	2521½		2.5	11.3
2175	1825	Holt J	1950	+ 5	4.4	
76	62	Inn Business	72	+ 2	3.3	10.8
2750	2220	Interbrew	2566	- 1	3.1	12.2
3099½	2545½	Mecton Timp	3099½	- 1	1.4	20.5
442½	407½	Mentmr	407½	- 1½	4.0	13.9
3825	2944½	Old Eng Pub	3375½	+ ½	0.8	29.8
514	214	Pubmaster	250½			
6200	5700	PizzaExpress	6000	+ ½	0.6	35.4
3775½	2975½	Ramsdens (H)	3625½	+ ½	0.7	15.4
3800½	3002½	Regent Inns	3795½		1.2	27.1
257	140½	SFI	208½	- 1	0.5	36.4
950	717	Scot & Nwc	922	- 2	3.0	18.4
2995	2220	Vnus Group	2995		1.1	11.5
342	273½	Wetherspoon JD1	323½		1.8	34.8
1145	850	Whitbread	1054½	- 6	3.1	18.6
530	468	Wolverhmpn O	504		4.6	11.4
468½	381	Yates Bros	468½	+ 4½	0.8	35.3
867½	630½	Young 'A'	846½	+ 1½	3.0	26.8

BUILDING MATERIALS

74½	49½	Aggregate Indstr	73½	- ½	3.0	15.4
237	199	Anglian Group	237	+ 1	5.0	14.3
422	290	BPB	400	+ 5	3.1	18.3
288½	188½	Baggeridge Brk	206	- 4	3.7	15.5
62½	44½	Blackburn	53½	- ½	1.1	60.0
497	271½	Blue Circle	324	- 2	3.9	14.1
1237½	985½	Boredon PLC	1177½	- 2	4.2	12.2
182½	125½	Br Dredging	181½	-	4.3	20.4
930	765	CRH	881½	+ 4	1.2	21.9
62½	47½	Caledonian Royt	60½	-	7.7	5.1
145½	107½	Carpet	145½	-	5.5	12.5
215½	158½	Cement	201	- 3½	4.0	13.9
116½	100½	Coraton plt	114½	-	7.9	
130½	90½	Cleaton Gp	105	+ 2½	6.1	7.7
218	217½	Dyson (J&J)	218½	-	3.3	13.0
120	105	Dyson 'A'	107½	-	6.7	6.4
60½	43½	Ennstone	52½	+ ½		
187½	147	Epwin	172½	+ ½	7.4	9.1
1309½	1011½	Gibbs & Dandyl	1229	+ ½	3.9	11.5
197	154	Graham Grp	188		4.0	16.7
1390	1330½	McAlpine (Alf)	1375	+ 3½	2.4	12.7
176	113½	McCarthy & S	165		1.2	27.1
74	70	McInerney	74		2.9	13.8
1424½	1171½	Morgan Sindall	1369½	+ 2	2.9	21.2
397½	301	Morrison Cons	378½	-	1.8	10.4
342	273½	Wetherspoon JD1	323½		1.8	34.8
1145	850	Whitbread	1054½	- 6	3.1	18.6
530	468	Wolverhmpn O	504		4.6	11.4
468½	381	Yates Bros	468½	+ 4½	0.8	35.3
867½	630½	Young 'A'	846½	+ 1½	3.0	26.8

CHEMICALS

188	134½	Albright & Wilr	186½	+ 4½	3.8	18.5
204½	110½	Allied Colloids	203½		2.0	27.7
127½	100½	Amber Ind	126½		3.2	10.0
107½	90½	Amberley Gp	94		2.2	15.9
100	72	Ashlow Ex	94½	+		15.4
2689½	2003½	BASF Dkt	2634½	- 34½	2.7	
1189	850	BOC	1010	- 20	3.1	17.4
528	331½	BTP	477	- 30	3.7	15.7
2737½	2131½	Bayer DMSO	2581½	- 37½	2.3	
126	94½	Brad Chems	96½		3.9	10.9
352½	210½	Br Vita'l	325	+ 3	3.4	16.4
182½	128½	Bronner Mond	174	+ 1½	4.2	12.7
295	196½	Cambrg (W)	273½		4.2	12.6
229½	155	Cty Technology	195		2.4	37.7
474	234	Courtaulds	441	- 2	3.8	11.5
458½	351½	Croda	455½	+ 5	2.3	21.6
269½	203½	Dpelfleld	249½		4.0	11.5
152½	116	Elementis	149	+ ½		25.6
313½	260½	Ems & Everard	267½		4.8	11.5
71	53½	Exro Colour	71	+ 10	4.3	12.6
178½	134½	Gibbon	165½	- 1	5.3	11.2
64½	49½	Hickson	64		2.2	15.9
2459½	2089½	Hoechst	2384½		2.2	
1200	738½	ICI	1148	+ 28	3.8	45.8
2698	1989	Ingpac	2386½	+ 4	2.8	13.4
193½	141½	Kalon	191½		3.1	16.8
1000	805	Lporbtr	829	+ 24	3.1	16.8
75	47	Mercktnt	74	- 1	4.1	7.1
35	27	Micrctct	29		4.5	7.3
380	330	Norsk	363	- 2	3.3	11.4
231	181½	Scapa	211½	+ 3	3.5	11.4
92	76	Sutcliffe Speak	78½		7.5	8.0
17614	14554	Tokeds Chem	16074	- 194	0.4	48.9
248	227½	Victrex	238½		2.5	21.6
695	595	Wssshlme Rt	674½		5.9	13.0
340	180	Yorks Sprt	305	+ 7½	5.9	13.0
387½	282½	Yule Catter	387½	+ 4	3.7	16.3

CONSTRUCTION

58½	19½	AAF Inds	48	- 1½		
375	230	Abbey	375		2.7	26.2
427½	332½	Alfred	418½		2.7	20.6
247½	184½	Amec	182½		3.4	18.0
712½	480	Amey	714	+ 1	4.8	22.9
1055	772½	Andrews Sykes	1035	+ 10	3.8	20.7
277½	190	Ashtead	277½	+ 4½	4.0	34.5
49½	26½	Bamrdstr	46½		4.0	8.9
359	264	Barratt Devel	348		4.6	15.5
252	161½	Bellway	225	+ 1	4.3	17.3
490	361½	Berkeley	361½	+ 1	3.3	11.9
25½	18½	Bellinrich	22½			7.7
55½	46½	Ben Bailey	70½		3.9	8.2
775	582½	Bensley Co	748½		5.3	16.3
757½	545	Bett Bros	720		3.7	10.8
215	200	Bovis (Henryt)	206		4.6	11.2
276½	192½	Bovis Homes	266	+ ½	4.5	11.2
145	105	Brandon Hire	139	+ 1	4.3	16.3
42½	30½	Britannia Grit	42½		4.5	11.3
155½	98½	Bryant	129	+ ½	3.9	7.6
157½	102½	CALA	134½			
4	3	Camplt & Asn	3½	-		
136½	83½	Clarke T	126½		5.9	8.8
41½	20	Costain	113		9.3	10.7
125½	97½	Countryside	122		3.7	10.8
142½	94½	Crest Nicholson	127		3.7	
122½	85½	Cussons	105½		3.2	15.2
210	160	Eve Group	205		5.8	13.2
23	19½	Galliford	20½		4.9	15.0
1108	1015	Gleeson (M J)	1025		5.8	6.9
108	105	Hawtock Euro	105		5.6	17.8
192	152	Hawdon-Stuart	178	- ½	5.9	21.4
28	20	Howard Hdgs	27½		1.2	33.8
696½	369½	JarVil	680	- 3½	2.7	
251	181	Kellerr	238½	+ 2½	4.2	10.6
252½	199½	Kier	241½		4.3	10.4
376½	309½	Lang (J)	368½		6.6	
125	117½	Laing 5.4% Cv Pf	121			
14½	8½	Lovell (TJ)	12½		3.8	12.1
515½	155½	Maunders (J)	369½		5.8	
172½	133½	McAlpine (Alf)	159½	+ 1	5.0	
176	113½	McCarthy & S	165	+ 2	2.4	12.7
176	113½	McInerney	174		2.9	13.8
142½	70	McInerney	136½	+ 2	2.9	
1424½	1171½	Morgan Sindall	1369½	+ 2	2.9	21.2
397½	301	Morrison Cons	378½	-	1.8	10.4
127	77½	Mowlem (J)	113½	-	4.4	11.6
259½	182½	Persimmon	247	-	5.1	
109½	80½	Petersouset	90½	- 1	5.5	13.3
120	112	Pochins	120	+ 2½	3.9	
158½	116	Prowtng	150½		2.8	12.5
196	142½	Redrowt	187½		1.5	18.3
352½	222½	Spamstart	73		4.7	13.4
94½	72	Swan Hill	73		7.7	9.9
142½	121½	Tay Homes	138		2.0	17.3
238	174	Taylor Woodrow	227½	- 2	4.8	13.7
383½	190	Tilbury Douglas	349	- 1	3.2	8.7
29½	21½	Try Group	29		6.5	
78½	63½	Wimpey	133½		4.4	13.8
135½	108½	Wimhomes	48½		6.5	11.9
58	38½	Ward Hdgs	56	+ 1	3.4	11.8
272½	228½	Westbury	13	+ ½		18.8
15	12½	Wiggins	174	- ½	4.0	
191	139½	Wilson (C'l)	174½		2.3	13.8
688½	511	Wilson Bowden	674½	- 1½	5.3	11.2
140½	92½	Wimpey Gt	135½	+		

DISTRIBUTORS

256½	182½	Acson Gp Splst	256½		1.3	21.4
365	297½	Adam & Harvey	335		8.4	5.1
31	9½	Alexandrs	30	-		68.8
	1	Ass Br Eng	1½			

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

330	297	Anchorpole	327½		2.3	38.6
359	229	Ascot Hldgs	350		4.1	10.6
645	525	Bradon Hll	548½	- 8	3.6	15.5
1173½	79	Brit Polythene	110	- 1½	5.8	9.1
377½	345	Cdfrsn	360		4.5	8.3
185½	170½	Cir Cruis	180½	+ ½	3.2	17.1
163½	134½	Clarkepoint	148½	- 4	4.1	10.4
54	31½	Coors (US)	46		6.4	6.9
130½	96½	Dng Mgmnt	120		9.1	6.5
125½	109½	Delmuze Gl	111½		3.3	8.8
281	217½	Dickeria	231½		7.8	9.4
631	450	Electrocomponents	575½	+ 2	1.8	31.8
186	131½	Exhibit Dec	179½	+ 5	9.8	29.7
157½	124	Ferguson Hldg	142		7.5	7.7
380	265½	Fenn Harrison	292½		7.3	9.3
647½	391	Fitz Jackson	579½		7.8	6.7
4090p	3274	Fraser Group	3854	- ½	2.6	16.4
647½	501	Gartmore	626	+ ½	4.3	10.6
1350	891	Gartmore Tecnn	1325		3.7	82.1
1185½	13	HR Owen	16	- ½	6.2	10.4
420	341	Hepburn	377½		2.4	
1367	1067	Hickson	1367½		3.5	7.4
1350	1000	Hillsdown Hldgs	1335		4.5	15.2
1185½	1153½	Hpsn Sandvik	1184½		4.2	15.4
1000	731	Hunting	1000		3.3	13.5
1367	1067	Hutchinson	1291		1.9	14.4
242	195½	Inchcape	235½	- 7	3.5	15.0
2498½	1977	Jacks Wilson	2498½		3.2	12.9
1167½	1000	Jardine Math	1167½		2.1	20.2
474½	387	Jrdine Strat	474½		2.1	20.2
57½	49½	Polyhedron	54½		9.0	7.3
608½	176½	Powercrasyon	184½	- 8	7.1	4.8
209½	156½	Quadrpmaste	202½	+ 6	6.2	10.4
50	39½	Shndland Grp	40½			
80	50	Rutland Metal	55			
361½	226½	Rexnold	259½	+ 4	3.2	10.6
85	73	Richardson West	81		8.2	7.2
302½	186	Rolls-Royce	298	+ 10½	2.5	22.6
365	268	Rotork	360	- 1	3.2	24.0
230	148	Rubicon	227½	+ ½	3.4	16.3
1425	1153½	SKF 'B'	1337½	+ 31½	3.1	
230	139½	Senior Engt	227		1.9	20.9
612½	461½	Smith-Nwd	582½	+ 10	2.2	17.4
1490	975	Stelax	1462	+ 18	1.8	26.1
140½	114½	Six Hundred	139	+ 8½	4.5	9.6
975½	702	Swallos Instl	963½	- 11½	2.4	21.4
187		Ti Somers	12½		2.4	
675	542½	Spaun-Sancrt	675	+ 17½	2.7	17.6
326½	262½	Sterling Ind	313½		4.1	11.4

ELECTRICITY

599	310	Br Energy	575	+ 5½	3.0	56.6
889½	600	Energy Group	838	+ 1½	3.1	16.9
998	598½	National Grid'A'	891½	- 2½	3.7	15.5
700	518½	National Power	673	- 5½	6.1	7.8
909	725	PowerGen	801	- 4	4.1	12.5
1167½	1020½	Hydro-Elec	1020½	+ 1½	3.8	13.5
599	475	Scottish Power	559	- 5	4.7	13.2
599	457	Southern Elec	542½	- 6	5.1	14.5
615	522	Weldon	594	- 11	5.0	13.1

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

880	715	ARM Holdings	872½	- 7½		
3074	2074	Acal	3434½	+ 27½	3.6	11.2
1125½	690	Advalloy	1083	- 2½	0.3	
42	27½	Aesstrad	41	+ ½	1.5	
34	26½	Arlen	27½		6.2	8.7
1298	1065½	Assect	1098		1.8	11.6
76½	70½	Avesco	49½	-		
1892½	1757½	BICC	181	+ 7½	5.5	
85½	68½	BMS	85		4.7	9.6
85½	61	Bacrock	78	+ 9½	2.0	
8½	6½	Barley (Ch)	8½	-	4.3	13.3
99	77	Baynes (Charles)	94		4.4	
17½	11	Beaufort	12		8.7	
44½	27	Benson Group	40½	-	4.6	38.3
2304½	1815½	Bergtsd	2275½	+ 6	1.7	32.6
1883	1423	Bentley Dr Dv Ln	1848½		5.3	
1250	867½	Bookpost	1250	+ 40	7.0	26.5
44½	36½	Brnth Inds	39½			
29½	15½	Bssmstr	17½	+ ½	6.5	7.8
141	117½	Brdmpt	122½	- 1	4.8	13.8
538	381½	Br Aerospace	533	+ ½	1.1	23.1
210	122½	Br Steel	167	- 2½	7.5	15.3
1561½	1361½	Bronze Ind	1467½	- ½	6.1	4.7
1125	92½	Bullough	94	+ 1	7.7	9.7
36	25½	Carbo	36		5.2	
2175	150	Carclo Eng	2175		3.3	11.6
2175	1910	Cardogn	2175		3.3	11.6
1900	1580	Chambrlin Hll	1557½		3.9	11.5
570	570	Charterl	700	+ 12½	4.5	22.8
1569½	1107½	Chrtering	1569		2.4	
375	180	Chrtr Wtwsn	1110½	- 6½	1.5	38.6
1119½	1030	Cohesm	1105			
430	385	Colett (A)	385			
1491½	1015½	Concntrc	1027½		8.5	22.3
1359½	1184½	Cond Brown	1340	+ 2½	5.3	
1875	1245	DS	1275½	+ 3		10.8
31	16	Elcon	30		3.8	14.6
112½	72½	Elect (B)	110		3.2	14.6
1557½	1249½	Expamet	1514½	- 1	3.2	14.6
1875	1475	FKI	1874½	- 1	2.8	14.9
1995½	1675½	Ferrsm	1874½		2.8	14.9
2½	1½	Ferrsm				
38½	28	Firth Hldgs	36½		8.8	28.9
1547½	1364	Firth Rosan	1465½		2.4	17.9
465½	377½	Fiske	38		2.4	14.6
104	91½	GEI Int	103½	+ 3½	5.4	10.5
1967½	1481½	Garton Eng	1954½		5.3	6.7
3331½	2167½	Gaymwell	3176½		3.2	12.7
1472½	921½	Halen MacLn	141	+ ½	4.3	14.3
230	185	Hadleigh	191		4.6	9.0
248	160	Hall Engr	236	+ 3½	4.4	9.5
1407½	991½	Halma	1405½		2.2	19.1
79½	64½	Hampson Ind	76½		4.1	15.6
64½	35½	Hay (Maxwell)	53½		2.0	
54½	40½	Hazlewood	43½		4.6	5.8
71½	42½	Hill & Smith	70		7.5	17.7
1111½	65½	How Gp	1089	- 1	3.2	15.4
244½	201½	Huntingt	244½		4.1	13.1
519	378	IMI	515	- 2	2.7	16.8
627½	467½	Johnson Matth	625	+ 1½	2.5	15.2
626	384	Jones Stepman	23		8.2	9.5
469	385	Kelcey Ind	469	+ 21½	8.6	7.0
1041	369½	Lindst	410	- 5	3.5	12.3
41½	23½	Lindsr (T)	37½		4.6	10.0
52½	19½	MS Ind	20½		1.7	
460	403½	Marg Bronze	437½	+ 8	2.9	18.1
511	377½	McKechnie	507½	- 2½	4.3	13.3
167½	155½	McLeod Russel	166	+ 8½	5.3	12.1
211	154½	Meggitt	208	+ ½	2.9	22.2
99	82½	Metalrect	94	- ½	5.5	
149	111½	Metalfinch	146			
2802½	142½	Meteor	2802½	+ 3	2.1	77.0
3677½	2615½	Molins	3498	- 1½	4.5	
474½	382½	Morgan Cblet	474½	+ 7½	4.1	15.1
57½	49½	Polyhedron	54½		9.0	7.3
608½	176½	Powercrasyon	184½	- 8	7.1	4.8
209½	156½	Quadrpmaste	202½	+ 6	6.2	10.4
50	39½	Shndland Grp	40½			
80	50	Rutland Metal	55			
361½	226½	Rexnold	259½	+ 4	3.2	10.6
85	73	Richardson West	81		8.2	7.2
302½	186	Rolls-Royce	298	+ 10½	2.5	22.6
365	268	Rotork	360	- 1	3.2	24.0
230	148	Rubicon	227½	+ ½	3.4	16.3
1425	1153½	SKF 'B'	1337½	+ 31½	3.1	
230	139½	Senior Engt	227		1.9	20.9
612½	461½	Smith-Nwd	582½	+ 10	2.2	17.4
1490	975	Stelax	1462	+ 18	1.8	26.1
140½	114½	Six Hundred	139	+ 8½	4.5	9.6
975½	702	Swallos Instl	963½	- 11½	2.4	21.4
187		Ti Somers	12½		2.4	
675	542½	Spaun-Sancrt	675	+ 17½	2.7	17.6
326½	262½	Sterling Ind	313½		4.1	11.4

ENGINEERING

280	232	Abtl	222½		4.2	10.5
44	38½	Acal	38½	- 2½		
255	145	Aumasc	181	+ 1	5.9	8.2
174	129½	Atvis	172	+ 6½	2.5	21.9
176½	159½	Ash & Lacy†	171½		5.8	8.1
125	78	Aprature Mssl	78		3.8	18.5
518	345½	BHH	512	- 3½	1.6	21.0
212½	150	BTR†	208	+ 4½	4.6	14.1
82½	68½	BWG	68		4.7	9.6
85½	61	Bapcock	78	+ 9½	2.0	
8½	6½	Barley (Ch)	8½	-	4.3	13.3
99	77	Baynes (Charles)	94		4.4	
17½	11	Beaufort	12		8.7	
44½	27	Benson Group	40½	-	4.6	38.3
2304½	1815½	Bergtsd	2275½	+ 6	1.7	32.6
1883	1423	Bentley Dr Dv Ln	1848½		5.3	
1250	867½	Bookpost	1250	+ 40	7.0	26.5
44½	36½	Brnth Inds	39½			
29½	15½	Bssmstr	17½	+ ½	6.5	7.8
141	117½	Brdmpt	122½	- 1	4.8	13.8
538	381½	Br Aerospace	533	+ ½	1.1	23.1
210	122½	Br Steel	167	- 2½	7.5	15.3
1561½	1361½	Bronze Ind	1467½	- ½	6.1	4.7
1125	92½	Bullough	94	+ 1	7.7	9.7
36	25½	Carbo	36		5.2	
2175	150	Carclo Eng	2175		3.3	11.6
2175	1910	Cardogn	2175		3.3	11.6
1900	1580	Chambrlin Hll	1557½		3.9	11.5
570	570	Charterl	700	+ 12½	4.5	22.8
1569½	1107½	Chrtering	1569		2.4	
375	180	Chrtr Wtwsn	1110½	- 6½	1.5	38.6
1119½	1030	Cohesm	1105			
430	385	Colett (A)	385			
1491½	1015½	Concntrc	1027½		8.5	22.3
1359½	1184½	Cond Brown	1340	+ 2½	5.3	
1875	1245	DS	1275½	+ 3		10.8
31	16	Elcon	30		3.8	14.6
112½	72½	Elect (B)	110		3.2	14.6
1557½	1249½	Expamet	1514½	- 1	3.2	14.6
1875	1475	FKI	1874½	- 1	2.8	14.9
1995½	1675½	Ferrsm	1874½		2.8	14.9
2½	1½	Ferrsm				
38½	28	Firth Hldgs	36½		8.8	28.9
1547½	1364	Firth Rosan	1465½		2.4	17.9
465½	377½	Fiske	38		2.4	14.6
104	91½	GEI Int	103½	+ 3½	5.4	10.5
1967½	1481½	Garton Eng	1954½		5.3	6.7
3331½	2167½	Gaymwell	3176½		3.2	12.7
1472½	921½	Halen MacLn	141	+ ½	4.3	14.3
230	185	Hadleigh	191		4.6	9.0
248	160	Hall Engr	236	+ 3½	4.4	9.5
1407½	991½	Halma	1405½		2.2	19.1
79½	64½	Hampson Ind	76½		4.1	15.6
64½	35½

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	141.95	151.29	- 0.18	..
Do NAV to Mar 20	140.18	140.18		
UK Equity Safeguard	172.73	130.54†	- 0.08	2.02
Do NAV to Mar 20	110.61	110.61		
US Eqy Safeguard	97.46	102.95		
Cash	951.37	956.03†		5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	417.70	444.00	- 2.40	1.43
UK Small Cos	99.02	105.89	+ 0.53	0.50
FTSE 250 Index	117.50	125.76	+ 0.26	1.88
Govett UK Index	2727.52	2879.39†	-23.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd	85.35	88.40		6.32
Monthly Inc	45.49	48.58†	- 0.01	7.98
International Funds				
American Gen	330.90	350.40		2.90
American Strat	250.89	268.32	- 0.34	
JP US Index	2560.76	2661.60†		4.00
European Gen	424.00	448.10	+ 1.00	0.08
European Strat	180.49	193.03	+ 0.02	
Japan Gen	97.92	103.80	- 1.20	
Asia Pacific	61.82	65.79	- 0.66	1.09
Pacific Strat	96.00	102.67	- 1.27	..
Greater China	179.21	191.85	- 1.75	
Latin America	104.51	111.76	- 2.33	
Intl Growth	186.97	199.95	- 8.75	0.11
Enhanced Emerg	178.30	184.80		2.14
Global Strategy	52.37	56.00	+ 0.14	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	980.70	1041.00	- 5.00	2.03
General Inc	734.90	845.00	- 3.90	2.03
UK Growth Acc	672.70	715.60	- 2.80	2.18
UK Growth Inc	422.50	449.40	- 1.90	2.18
Higher Inc Acc #	1272.00	1353.00	- 5.80	4.11
Higher Inc Inc #	647.60	682.70	- 2.60	4.11
Gilt, Fxd Int Acc	240.80	254.30	0.20	5.75
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	97.85	103.30	0.10	5.75
Nth America	477.00	507.40	- 1.90	
Europe	597.80	635.70	+ 3.40	0.44
Brit Excell	133.30	141.80	- 0.60	2.04
Brit Frdmtls Acc	170.32	181.80	- 0.60	4.17
Brit Frdmtls Inc	107.60	114.40	- 0.50	4.17
Global Opps	135.70	144.30	- 0.30	0.21
Balanced Acc	82.60	87.87	- 0.27	2.12
Balanced Inc	74.89	79.66	- 0.26	2.12
Japan Acc	31.76	33.78	- 0.35	
Pac Basin Acc	269.50	286.60	- 1.80	2.33
AXA SUN LIFE FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0117 989 9000				
Discretionary	70.53	75.02	- 0.08	
UK Income Inc	89.65	94.35	- 0.03	2.17
Extra Inc Inc #	41.96	44.31	- 0.11	6.00
High Yld Inc	129.10	136.90	- 0.46	3.84
Inc & Gth Inc	119.70	127.10	- 0.60	2.33
UK Smaller Cos	52.41	55.76	+ 0.18	1.70
Pacific Gth Port	32.80	34.89	- 0.51	0.88
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	148.00	157.10†	- 0.20	5.69
High Inc Equity	249.40	266.70†	- 0.40	3.93
Worldwide Fund	272.40	288.80†	+ 0.30	3.64
American Growth	578.00	617.00†	- 5.90	0.22
Asian Pacific	212.30	227.10	- 2.60	0.55
Assets & Earnings	399.80	427.60†	- 0.60	2.39
Euro Capital Acc	306.70	328.00	+ 1.60	0.24
Extra Inc	43.65	46.62†	- 0.13	5.97
General	363.60	386.80†	- 0.48	2.49
Global Opps	85.87	91.35	- 0.39	0.35
Japan	74.06	79.21	- 0.96	
Managed Inc	56.49	60.10†	- 0.08	4.24
Mastertrust	207.80	221.40	- 0.60	1.88
US Emerging Cos	243.20	260.10	- 1.58	
Ethical	106.40	113.20	- 0.50	1.62
International	159.50	169.70	- 0.80	0.58
Dividend & Growth	92.48	98.38†	- 0.22	3.57
Global Gwth & Svc	80.73	86.11	- 0.04	2.02
Latin America	78.86	83.89	- 1.09	0.80
Capital Reserve	156.90	157.00	+ 0.10	4.45
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
NSP UK Growth	132.00	140.40	- 0.40	1.37
Lower Income #	182.20	193.80	- 0.40	3.25
Extra Income #	336.80	357.50		4.25
Smaller Cos	114.60	121.90†	+ 0.10	1.67
International	149.80	159.30†	+ 0.10	0.74
ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGRS LTD				
Enq: 0345 866 666 Dlg: 0800 833 580				
Amer Opp Acc	413.38	434.72	+ 1.97	
Emg Mkts Inc	61.58	65.16	- 0.53	0.43
Ethical Inc	97.81	103.49	- 0.15	0.61
Euro Gwth Acc	147.80	155.23	+ 0.67	
Euro Spec Opps Acc	157.33	166.44	+ 1.46	
Extra Inc Inc	251.58	265.51	- 0.64	3.59
Extra Inc Acc	346.17	365.34	- 0.89	3.59
FF Emg Econ	77.07	81.55	- 0.14	0.72
Fixed Int Inc #	30.37	31.57	- 0.01	7.45
Frontier Mkt Inc	82.86	87.68	- 1.25	
Fund of Inv Inc	225.99	239.13†	+ 0.04	0.35
Fund of Inv Acc	489.21	517.68	+ 0.10	0.35
Gilt Inc Inc #	51.33	53.49	+ 0.02	6.43
Global Bond Inc	40.91	42.73†	+ 0.30	4.86
Global Inc Inc	34.69	36.50	- 0.05	3.31
Global Inc Acc	53.11	56.09	- 0.08	3.31
High Inc Inc	188.86	199.87†	- 0.45	3.43
High Inc Acc	254.66	269.52	- 0.62	3.43
Japan Inc	141.65	149.90	- 0.66	
Latin Amer Inc	68.51	72.49	- 1.11	
Mastertrust Inc	69.72	73.77†	- 0.14	2.34
Master Gwth Inc	64.99	68.77†	- 0.81	0.34
North Amer Inc	291.28	308.13	- 1.11	
North Amer Acc	291.63	308.50	- 1.11	
Pacific Inc	54.68	57.86†	- 0.21	0.20
Prop Share Inc	102.04	107.98	- 1.65	0.91
Recovery Inc	120.47	127.48	+ 0.22	1.27
Recovery Acc	136.95	144.92	+ 0.25	1.27
Special Sit Inc	197.28	208.77	+ 1.21	0.72
Special Sit Acc	223.44	236.46	+ 1.38	0.72
Tech Inc	880.65	925.28	- 0.70	
Tech Acc	880.65	925.88	- 0.70	
UK Blue Chip Inc	129.66	135.08	- 0.98	2.19
UK Blue Chip Acc	154.89	162.61	- 1.17	2.19
UK Emg Co Inc	88.36	93.52	+ 0.43	0.85
UK Gwth Inc	78.34	82.45†	- 0.35	0.86
World Port Inc #	100.94	106.82	- 0.77	1.79
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2840.00	2953.00	+66.00	
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 756 5668				
Retail Property #	109.70	116.60		5.50
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	117.22	124.37	- 0.49	1.71
Amity Builder Inc	109.74	116.74	- 0.11	2.78
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cnstrctn Ind Pens	157.10	163.70		
Industrial Pens Prov	90.41	93.93		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
American Sm Cos	511.90	542.90	- 3.15	
Fund	124.00	130.30†	- 0.10	6.30
Brit Smlr Cos	124.60	132.60	+ 0.25	1.81
Europe	447.40	474.70		2.85
Euro Smlr Cos	153.00	162.90	+ 0.30	0.20
High Income #	77.02	81.94†	- 0.46	4.92
Income	479.10	509.70	2.35	3.41
Japan	265.40	282.10		2.55
Latin American	111.90	119.00	- 1.45	
Pacific	73.76	78.47	- 1.43	1.21
UK Small Cos	73.76	78.47	+ 0.21	0.90
Japanese Sm Cos	450.50	464.50	4.30	
Shin Nippon	358.90	395.10†	- 1.75	1.91
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Sml & Uk Gth	463.10	489.70	+ 5.60	0.71
Capital Gwth	183.90	196.60	- 3.40	2.14
Global Opps	259.10	274.00	- 3.80	0.89
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0181 327 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.60	100.60†		6.73
Cash Acc	134.00	134.00		6.73
Income #	813.50	867.70	2.00	3.40
Income Builder #	92.51	98.54	- 0.03	3.99
...				
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 222 1620				
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 831 7216				
[illegible]	64.94	65.75	- 0.06	6.36
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Equity	256.50	270.00	- 0.30	1.16
-do- Accum	317.70	337.60	- 1.40	1.22
UK Income	210.30	221.40†	- 0.90	3.18

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	315.30	334.20	- 0.90	1.02
-do- Income Dist	177.70	188.30†	- 0.50	2.69
-do- Accum	605.80	642.10†	- 1.50	2.69
Gilt & Fxd Int	44.71	46.98	+ 0.07	4.63
Growth Units	379.50	405.00	- 1.60	1.43
Bond	193.80	203.90	...	5.70
Intl Growth	262.70	278.70†	+ 0.30	0.26
North American	372.90	395.70	- 2.60	
Far East	178.30	190.70	- 1.40	1.11
UK Smaller Cos	318.10	340.20	+ 1.20	0.85
European	144.90	154.20	+ 1.30	0.42
Japanese Growth	27.60	29.25†	- 0.18	
High Income	314.50	335.60†	- 0.80	2.55
Eurogrowth Plus	251.35	267.39†	+ 1.88	0.88
Portfolio	107.62	114.49	- 0.28	1.85
UK Income Inc	133.39	141.90	- 0.55	3.52
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7465				
American & Gen	333.60	352.60†	+ 0.10	
European Inc	161.30	171.40	+ 0.10	0.10
Smaller Cos (4-1)	133.40	142.00	+ 4.00	7.47
Growth	806.00	857.50	- 2.20	1.55
Income & Growth #	671.70	714.60	+ 0.60	3.73
-do- Accum #	1069.50	1137.80	+ 1.00	3.73
Japan & Gen	46.59	49.32†	- 0.32	
Hallmark Gwth	1665.00	1735.00†	- 6.00	1.33
-do- Accum	2104.00	2192.00	- 8.00	1.33
Special Sits	186.40	198.30	- 0.60	1.52
High Yield	2153.00	2220.00†	- 3.00	3.28
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	127.26	135.38	- 0.05	2.13
American Portfolio	184.12	195.00	- 0.34	0.41
European Portfolio	223.71	237.58†	+ 0.17	0.27
High Income	56.51	59.45†	- 0.03	6.28
Japanese Portfolio	45.17	47.81†		
Pacific Portfolio	111.82	120.24		1.19
UK Equity	130.67	138.56†	- 0.45	2.56
UK Equity & Bd	73.29	77.68	- 0.08	4.89
UK Smlr Cos	64.06	68.52	+ 0.16	1.69
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	1039.53	1055.25		3.29
Inv Fd Acc	1088.15	1096.47		
Fxd Int Sec Inc	168.03	169.71		7.54
Fxd Int Sec Acc	184.22	184.98		
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	1014.43	1039.77		3.38
Investment Acc	4964.85	5039.89		
Fixed Int Inc	136.55	137.08		7.59
Fixed Int Acc	282.46	283.60		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Intl	101.79	107.01		5.78
Beck Bio-Tech	40.91	44.18	+ 0.56	..
Acorn Ethical Tst	236.38	251.47		0.49
City Fin Assets	181.25	186.32†		2.66
City Fin Intl	96.46	102.62†		
Fnacs Hse Cap	438.65	466.65		2.04
Buckley Wrld Gth	139.74	148.12		
Utilities Fd	91.98	93.96†	- 0.41	3.19
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 380				
Emerging Markets	50.39	53.46	- 0.45	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	113.11	120.33	- 0.48	
Dragon Growth	42.85	45.82	- 0.32	1.82
Equity High Inc #	133.21	140.96	- 0.70	3.84
-do- Accum #	202.05	213.80	- 1.05	3.84
Extra Income Inc	29.51	31.05†	- 0.03	5.64
Extra Income Acc	35.16	37.01	- 0.03	5.64
European Gwth	108.83	115.16	+ 0.76	..
Evergreen	42.03	44.95	- 0.08	
General Equity	154.95	163.54	- 0.54	1.76
Japan Growth	30.80	32.77	- 0.22	
Pedigree Gwth	99.04	104.80	- 0.01	1.16
Pnsl Smr Cos Inc	50.19	53.11†	+ 0.40	0.99
-do- Accum	54.36	57.52	+ 0.43	0.99
Retirement Inc #	38.66	41.13		4.36
Special Sits	66.14	71.12		1.96
UK & Overseas	78.03	82.57	+ 0.02	0.21
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	93.04	96.91	+ 0.01	2.88
Capital	118.73	123.67	+ 0.06	1.57
High Income	57.68	60.08	- 0.02	6.32
Top 50	85.35	88.94	- 0.40	1.56
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	266.99	278.14†	- 0.29	3.64
Long Gilt	53.07	55.24†		4.73
Monthly Inc Plus	62.82	65.44	- 0.04	6.85
-do- Accum	77.82	81.07	- 0.05	6.85
Preference Share	60.28	62.80†	+ 0.06	6.21
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	184.12	191.81†	- 0.18	5.02
Managed Fund	93.65	97.56†	- 0.24	2.17
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	58.76	61.21†	+ 0.35	1.39
-do- Accum	70.81	73.77†	+ 0.43	1.39
UK & General	139.40	145.22†	- 0.78	1.87
-do- Accum	187.90	195.75†	- 1.05	1.87
UK Growth	277.41	289.00†	- 1.40	1.36
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	355.58	370.43†	+ 1.22	0.36
Far Eastern Gth	88.97	92.68†	- 0.56	0.30
Global Bond	72.08	75.07†	+ 0.52	5.11
Japan Growth	80.18	83.51†	- 0.34	..
North Amer Gth	351.90	366.60†	- 1.50	..
Oriental Growth	53.67	55.91†	- 0.39	0.87
Worldwide Growth	93.78	97.70†	- 0.15	0.27
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.95	91.95†	+ 0.01	6.75
Homemaker Fund	114.91	122.26	- 0.59	1.86
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 556 6800				
Consistent UT	47.96	51.13		2.62
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	226.70	240.90†	- 0.60	1.68
Income	98.73	105.04	- 0.33	3.17
European Growth	118.50	125.60	- 0.50	0.10
Recovery	251.50	267.60†	- 0.60	1.79
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1401.40	1421.60		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	107.30	113.60	+ 0.30	0.28
Fellowship Tst	141.40	150.40	- 0.30	0.89
Income #	389.50	414.30†	- 0.90	3.35
-do- Accum #	1092.00	1161.00	- 3.00	3.35
Smaller Cos	277.40	295.10	- 1.00	0.63
-do- Accum	347.90	370.10	+ 1.30	0.63
Gth Portfolio	138.40	147.20	- 0.50	1.03
Mthly Inc Port #	115.70	123.00	- 0.30	3.17
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sml Cos	2008.00	2036.40	+14.90	0.45
UK Small Cos	2562.80	3576.50	+38.20	3.30
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	295.80	304.90†		3.22
DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD				
Dealers 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline 0800 317573				
...				
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Growth Acc	362.00	381.10		0.18
Income	743.10	781.20	- 8.30	4.08
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	279.63	296.40†	- 6.10	0.98
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Asset Tst	142.60	151.90†	- 0.30	1.77
Charities Eth	398.10	423.50†		2.27
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Japan Smaller Cos	18.13	19.26	- 0.01	..
European	384.50	408.98	+ 4.30	0.26
European Opps	142.50	151.40†	+ 0.90	0.37
Global Prtv	48.62	51.78†	+ 0.19	0.32
UK Growth	182.80	193.60	- 0.40	1.01
Growth & Inc #	265.80	282.70	- 0.70	2.12
Intl PEP	69.389	73.750	- 0.21	0.93
Japan Spec Sits	56.98	60.45	- 0.24	—
Japan	142.40	150.80	- 0.70	
Managed Intl	492.80	523.50	- 1.50	0.57
Moneybuilder Plus	88.34	89.87	- 0.09	0.29
Recovery	80.860	85.980	+ 0.15	2.14
South E Asia	141.50	150.70	- 1.40	1.29
Special Sits	1065.00	1133.00	+ 1.00	1.90
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	125.18	125.18	+ 0.02	6.90
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2780				
Balanced #	186.88	190.90	..	1.44
Finsbury Fxd Inc #	117.30	118.30	..	5.15
Cap Protfo	217.70	219.10	- 1.70	0.23
General Opps	187.20	188.49†		2.82
Growth Inc	54.39	55.04†	- 0.06	1.00
Private Portfolio	659.70	664.90		1.18
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 386 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	246.50	262.10	+ 3.30	..
High Income	24.39	25.07†	- 0.08	6.70
UK Smllr Cos	38.21	40.87	+ 0.14	1.68
US Smaller Cos	595.90	632.80	- 1.29	..
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	122.80	128.80	- 0.60	...
-do- Accum	122.80	129.80	- 0.60	..
Amer Smllr Cos	889.20	945.00	+ 3.60	..
-do- Accum	908.40	965.30	+ 3.50	..
Capital Tst	493.30	524.80†	+ 2.50	1.23
-do- Accum	735.80	780.80†	+ 3.70	1.23
Contl Smllr Cos	95.41	101.80	+ 0.80	..
-do- Accum	102.40	109.30	+ 0.90	..
Convertible	168.30	179.00	+ 0.30	5.70
-do- Accum	391.10	416.10	+ 0.80	5.70
Emerging Markets	60.06	64.10	- 0.67	0.07
-do- Accum	60.51	64.55	- 0.67	0.07
European	247.10	261.90	- 0.20	..
-do- Accum	262.70	278.40	- 0.20	..
Extra Income	549.10	584.20	- 0.80	4.06
-do- Accum	914.80	973.80	- 1.40	4.06
Financial	299.50	318.60†	- 0.70	0.38
-do- Accum	322.00	342.60†	- 0.60	0.38
Gilt Trust	64.12	68.12†		6.71
-do- Accum	108.50	111.99†		6.71
Health Fund Inc	305.30	324.80†	+ 0.90	..
-do- Accum	305.30	324.80†	+ 0.90	..
Income & Growth	317.30	337.50	- 0.90	3.84
-do- Accum	529.40	563.20	- 1.30	3.84
Intl Growth	539.80	574.50†	- 1.20	...
-do- Accum	599.40	637.90†	- 1.40	..
Japan & Gen	114.60	121.50	- 0.60	..
-do- Accum	115.60	122.70	- 0.60	..
Monthly Inc #	276.80	294.50†	- 1.60	3.81
-do- Accum #	293.20	311.90†	- 1.10	3.81
Managed Pfol Inc	148.60	156.48†	- 0.30	1.15
-do- Accum	165.50	174.28†	- 0.30	1.15
Quarterly Income #	73.51	78.55	- 0.02	4.76
-do- Accum #	88.79	95.93	- 0.04	4.76
UK Growth	89.10	94.79†	- 0.31	1.18
-do- Accum	98.42	104.70†	- 0.40	1.18
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 716835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	91.27	98.90	- 0.83	..
FP Am Smllr Cos	243.20	259.40	- 0.80	..
FP Asian Growth	153.50	163.70	- 2.10	..
FP Australian	433.20	462.00	- 3.40	..
FP Equity Dist	652.80	695.40†	- 1.90	1.44
-do- Accum	1500.00	1599.00	- 4.00	1.44
FP Euro Gth	499.30	532.50	+ 0.70	..
-do- Accum	547.00	583.40	+ 0.80	..
FP Intl Bond	57.98	61.35	+ 0.25	3.92
FP Intl Gth Dist	50.79	54.17	- 0.20	..
-do- Accum	74.87	79.86	- 0.31	..
FP Pac Basin Acc	161.70	172.40	- 2.30	0.07
FP Income #	83.81	89.39	+ 0.02	3.86
-do- Accum #	312.10	332.90	+ 0.10	3.86
FP Jap Smllr Cos	159.30	169.90	- 1.50	..
FP Monthly Dist #	95.94	102.38†	+ 0.10	4.46
FP Stlg Deposit	100.50	100.50†		6.45
FP Tokyo	61.31	65.39	- 0.77	..
FP UK Focus	60.85	64.90†	- 0.28	0.99
FP UK Growth	388.50	387.70	- 1.10	0.89
-do- Accum	598.50	638.40	- 2.20	0.89
Stewardship Dist	553.10	589.90†	- 0.20	1.21
-do- Accum	712.70	760.20	- 0.20	1.21
Stwdship Inc Dist #	86.85	92.64†	- 0.20	4.27
-do- Accum #	128.90	137.40	- 0.20	4.27
Stwdship Intnl	181.20	193.20	- 0.20	...
-do- Accum	195.00	208.00	- 0.30	..
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	144.70	145.40	- 0.30	2.40
Inst Ethical Ac #	148.30	149.00	- 0.30	2.40
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	169.80	180.60†	- 0.80	0.44
Open Cap Gth Acc	168.90	179.60	- 0.60	..
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	148.90	158.40	- 0.50	2.36
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	163.20	173.60	- 0.50	2.36
Opn Cp Gth Ic In #	154.90	164.70	- 0.30	3.09
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	172.70	183.70	- 0.30	3.09
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 108/7				
GANDA	421.90	444.10†	- 2.60	1.05
Cash	49.31	50.85†	+ 0.01	6.37
Income Portfolio	94.98	99.98†	- 0.12	2.27
GA Equity Gth	315.80	335.70	- 3.00	0.61
GA European Gth	208.50	222.10†	+ 0.60	...
GA Japan Gth	72.34	76.52†	- 1.14	..
GA Nth Amer Gth	352.90	371.50†	- 3.60	..
GA Intl Gth	158.90	168.70†	- 1.20	..
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	293.40	313.80	- 1.60	0.11
European Gth	1146.80	1218.00	+ 3.00	0.14
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	68.68	72.85†	+ 0.13	2.56
-do- Accum	80.75	85.41	+ 0.15	2.56
High Yield #	55.98	59.17†	+ 0.02	6.62
-do- Accum #	68.55	72.44	+ 0.03	6.62
Income Inc	270.30	289.19	- 0.30	2.96
-do- Accum	323.50	346.00	- 0.30	2.96
Intl Growth	439.50	465.40	- 2.20	1.78
Intl Income	134.00	141.80	+ 0.10	1.80
Japan Growth	381.80	404.70	- 4.00	0.03
Orient Acc	127.80	136.40	- 1.60	0.22
UK Blue Chip Inc	278.90	297.80	- 0.80	1.02
UK Blue Chip Acc	506.30	540.30	- 1.40	1.02
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	91.78	98.16	+ 0.53	1.18
US Growth	273.20	288.70	- 2.30	..
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	85.93	91.57	- 0.37	1.28
Practical Inv Inc #	158.08	170.14	- 0.04	2.63
-do- Accum #	397.26	424.88	- 0.09	2.83
UK Index	258.75	260.05	- 0.99	2.26
UK Smaller Cos	299.99	320.85	+ 0.43	1.04
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	26.67	27.64†	+ 0.01	6.84
High Income	49.66	52.84†	- 0.35	2.19
UK Growth & Inc	227.76	242.90	- 1.19	1.95
Global Bond	37.92	38.94	+ 0.19	5.36
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	44.93	48.05†	- 0.19	...
Global Managed	174.41	184.88†	- 0.42	0.70
Gold & Natl Res	80.18	85.75	- 0.59	..
Global Utilities	218.41	232.68	- 1.09	1.28
Overseas Funds				
American	281.86	298.03	- 1.46	..
European	221.58	235.44	+ 0.28	0.31
Euro Sel Opps	366.47	389.82	+ 1.77	...
Amer Emerging	231.56	246.02	- 0.54	..
Hong Kong	115.37	123.26	- 1.03	3.00
Japan	136.37	144.17	- 0.88	..
Pacific Growth	139.81	149.53	- 1.44	0.82
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	157.80	157.80†	+ 0.04	6.77
Managed Equity	331.84	331.84†	- 0.84	1.54
Long Term Bal	343.18	343.18†	- 4.35	2.35
Med Term Bal	285.24	285.24†	- 0.59	2.83
UK Equity	428.26	428.26†	- 1.91	1.26
UK Emerging Cos	219.43	219.43	+ 0.54	1.72
American	470.84	470.84	- 2.22	0.30
Japan	85.58	85.58	- 0.55	..
European	567.64	567.64	+ 1.06	0.59
Index Linked Gilt	220.49	220.49	- 0.10	2.37
Fixed Interest	213.50	213.50†	+ 0.03	6.86
Amer Emerging	521.40	521.40	- 1.86	..
Pacific	126.60	126.60	- 0.80	1.59
Emerging Mkts	133.00	133.00	- 0.67	0.69
Index Stoc Japan	89.97	89.97	- 0.57	0.51
-do- Pacific Rim	114.76	114.76	- 0.93	3.45
-do- Cont Europe	303.95	303.95	- 1.90	1.08
Index Stoc USA	295.99	295.99	- 1.28	0.97
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	157.08	167.08	- 0.42	..
Med Term Bal	136.69	145.41	- 0.30	
Long Term Bal	156.69	166.69	- 0.42	..
UK Equity	200.56	213.36	- 0.95	
UK Emerging Cos	103.78	110.40	+ 0.26	..
American	219.16	233.15	- 1.10	
Japan	40.95	43.56	- 0.28	
European	237.02	252.14	+ 0.47	
Fixed Interest	111.32	118.42	+ 0.01	
Index Linked Gilt	98.58	104.86	+ 0.01	
Deposit	96.07	102.20	+ 0.02	..
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWh Intl	190.02	200.02	- 0.51	0.42
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 528 6666				
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 01904 611110				
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 538 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Port Acc	64.28	68.29†	+ 0.15	2.23
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0845 464646 Dealing: 0845 464646				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	142.43	152.15	- 1.67	1.12
Europlan	1019.74	1081.80†	+ 4.53	..
European Income #	145.65	154.33	- 0.53	2.40
Euro Smlr Cos	300.37	321.59†	+ 4.26	...
European Value	144.28	153.53†	+ 0.72	..
-do- Accum	155.92	165.90	+ 0.77	..
Japan Trust	119.35	126.52	- 0.85	...
Japan Smlr Cos	105.46	111.94†	- 0.41	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	164.33	175.06†	- 2.66	..
North American	480.30	508.76	- 1.15	..
American Smaller	257.86	272.87†	- 0.44	..
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0800 538053				
British	182.26	190.84†	- 0.94	1.35
Capital	270.86	283.62	- 0.81	0.87
Dollar	735.26	769.91	- 4.49	..
Enterprise Gth	586.13	613.75	- 2.04	0.69
European	439.31	460.81	+ 0.64	..
Far East	185.74	194.49	- 1.97	1.88
Financial	1665.54	1744.02†	-17.20	1.71
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	29.29	30.46†	...	5.46
High Yield	160.98	168.57	- 0.48	3.54
Income & Growth	236.27	248.35†	- 1.18	2.51
International	385.86	404.04	- 0.74	0.30
Japanese General	140.12	146.72	+ 0.01	...
Japan Tech	64.31	67.34	- 0.14	..
Nat Resources	62.89	65.85†	- 0.56	0.80
Portfolio	110.38	115.58†	- 0.28	2.21
Special Sits	303.03	317.31	- 0.13	1.48
UK Emerging Cos	155.38	162.70	+ 0.69	0.65
US Smaller Cos	205.79	215.49	- 0.84	...
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	921.40	983.40	- 3.40	3.74
UK Growth	987.50	1053†	- 2.09	1.24
High Income #	162.80	173.70†	- 0.10	5.04
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	883.90	944.40†	- 6.10	...
European Gwth	259.90	276.60	+ 0.60	..
Japan Gwth	205.30	218.80	- 1.60	..
Japan Smllr Cos	17.69	18.88	+ 0.03	
Asian	34.15	36.45	- 0.35	0.55
Sing & Malay Gwth	32.43	36.05†	- 0.55	
Hong Kong Gwth	134.90	143.90	- 1.10	1.48
Global Bond	21.14	22.27	+ 0.15	4.40
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	243.80	245.00	- 1.00	2.18
Trade Index	160.20	164.50	+ 0.50	2.05
THE FOOTSIE FUND	98.54	99.04	- 0.54	1.88
Index Funds-International				
American Index	444.30	446.50	- 2.80	0.39
Eurotrack 100	315.90	317.50	+ 1.00	0.38
Japan Index	47.99	48.23	- 0.34	0.31
Tiger Index	88.40	90.42	- 0.86	2.80
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	80.04	82.71	+ 0.20	1.32
General Funds				
Managed Dist	114.90	120.00†	+ 0.10	0.86
Managed	120.19	125.40†		0.86
Bspnd Child Fnd	157.18	164.00†	- 0.46	0.92
UK Growth	98.59	103.00†	- 0.26	1.86
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	123.50	129.00	+ 0.10	4.31
Gilt & Fixed Int #	29.60	30.58†		7.17
UK Inc & Gwth	68.25	72.32†	- 0.15	2.07
UK Income #	543.50	567.00†	- 0.39	3.19
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	86.18	89.14	- 0.38	..
Amer Smllr Cos	214.10	222.60		
-do- Accum	216.40	225.00	+ 0.10	...
Europe Gth	425.30	444.30	+ 2.58	...
-do- Accum	441.60	460.20	+ 2.68	
Euro Smaller Cos	77.84	81.84	+ 0.62	...
French Growth	148.50	154.10	+ 0.10	0.41
-do- Accum	160.80	166.90	+ 0.10	0.41
H Kong & China	90.66	94.47	- 0.26	0.83
Intl Growth	87.81	91.35	- 0.22	0.47
-do- Accum	88.68	93.20	- 0.23	0.47
Japan Gth	18.94	19.74	- 0.06	...
-do- Accum	18.94	19.74	- 0.06	..
Japan Smaller Cos	19.94	20.81	+ 0.02	..
Glob Emg Mkts	93.75	97.81	- 1.60	0.03
-do- Accum	94.42	98.51	- 1.59	0.03
SE Asia	186.90	195.20	- 0.10	0.72
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	50.77	52.34	+ 0.34	5.56
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 0870 606 6457 Dealing 0870 606 6407				
UK Income #	158.70	167.90†	- 0.70	2.43
UK Growth	168.50	176.38†	- 0.80	1.20
European Gwth	149.90	158.10	+ 0.60	0.08
States Growth	270.50	286.20	+ 0.50	0.70
New Japan	59.84	63.53	- 0.58	..
Global Growth	117.70	124.60	- 1.00	..
Monthly Inc #	98.45	103.20†	- 0.34	7.28
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	173.80	184.80	- 1.90	..
Income #	309.70	329.55	- 0.24	3.64
UK Growth	121.14	128.86	- 0.22	1.85
Intl Growth	109.97	116.88	- 0.76	..
Ecology	141.75	150.78†	+ 0.02	0.50
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 556 8800				
Bridge Income	418.97	445.71†	- 0.64	3.99
Esk Growth	144.32	153.53†		0.44
Inc & Growth	182.61	189.16	- 0.31	2.85
Smaller Cos	131.69	140.10†	+ 0.79	1.21
Ever Spec Sit Inc	74.45	79.20†	- 0.12	1.62
Ever Spec Sit Acc	79.29	84.35†	- 0.13	1.82
Peature Growth	61.17	65.07†	- 0.20	1.99
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	643.20	682.40	- 2.50	1.24
UK Inc/Gth #	672.90	713.90	- 2.50	3.02
UK Income #	473.50	502.40†	- 1.30	3.92
UK Income Acc #	490.10	520.00†	- 1.40	3.92
UK Sm Cos	388.50	415.50	+ 1.90	1.57
Euro Gwth	251.50	266.00	- 0.30	0.20
N Amer Gwth	170.50	180.30	- 2.00	
Pacific Growth	6.34	6.73	- 0.11	0.21
Emg Mkts Gwth	71.21	75.56	- 0.78	..
Japan Growth	42.01	44.57	- 0.51	..
Dealing: 01277 842626				
Gwth Port Inc	92.68	98.01†	- 0.22	0.54
Gwth Port Acc	94.67	100.12†	- 0.23	0.53
Inc Port Inc	85.81	90.74†	- 0.12	3.80
Inc Port Acc	99.43	105.14†	- 0.14	2.88
Wwide Port	70.81	74.88	- 0.34	.
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01222 448412 Dealing: 01222 563512				
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				

Birmingham welcomes the G8 delegates for world talks.

(Afterwards, the world will be talking about us.)

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
European	325.45	345.43	+ 0.08	0.38
Far Eastern	237.40	252.40	- 2.60	...
UK Special Sits	81.60	87.83†	- 0.36	0.39
Fd of Inv Tsts	68.23	72.77	- 0.23	0.37
High Income #	69.77	74.41†	- 0.21	4.43
Financial Opps	74.56	79.52	- 0.75	0.10
Growth & Income #	57.65	61.49	- 0.22	2.44

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Eq Inc #	187.90	199.90†	- 0.60	3.02
UK Growth	153.00	162.80	- 0.60	1.26
-do- Accum	196.00	208.60	- 0.80	1.26
Worldwide Gth	466.30	496.10	- 1.70	0.31
-do- Accum	690.20	734.30	- 2.60	0.31
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
General	155.21	165.59†	- 0.71	2.00
Income	105.75	113.46	- 0.31	3.40
International	90.98	97.81	- 0.54	0.38
Tst of Inv Trusts	98.94	106.15†	- 0.19	0.80
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
MEM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	171.87	182.84†	+ 1.08	0.31
Intl Bond	61.60	64.70	+ 0.27	3.46
Intl Equity Growth	108.71	115.40	- 0.15	0.45
N Amer Growth	198.83	210.77†	- 1.48	0.44
Special Sits Growth	40.67	43.26†	- 0.17	1.56
UK Growth	661.91	704.15†	- 3.25	1.90
-do- Accum	940.58	1000.61†	- 4.61	1.90
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1565.50	1611.50†	..	2.60
Income #	1335.10	1364.50	..	3.80
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	217.90	223.00†	...	3
MANEK INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0171 815 7070				
Growth Fd Acc	114.80	122.40	- 8.30	..
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Income #	108.20	111.50†	- 0.30	6.02
Investment Plls	233.10	240.40	- 1.00	1.78
-do- Accum	284.80	293.50	- 1.20	1.78
UK Select Plls	226.70	233.80	- 1.40	1.49
-do- Accum	281.20	289.90	- 1.80	1.49
UK 100 Cos	176.40	176.40	- 1.40	1.52
-do- Accum	184.20	184.20	- 1.40	1.52
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	82.97	88.27		3.10
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	125.00	133.00†	+ 0.50	..
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Income	680.24	723.66	- 3.16	2.58
Global Inc	104.77	111.46	- 0.08	2.18
Bal Leaders Inc	519.37	552.52	- 1.74	1.88
Intl Leaders	322.33	342.90	- 1.32	0.31
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
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Bd Accum	57.45	57.58	- 0.07	5.26

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



POP

Can Eddi Reader pull off a comeback?

PAGE 38

THE TIMES

ARTS

CLASSICAL

Mad about Messiaen at Westminster

PAGE 40



Size isn't everything, but still . . .

You may not have noticed, being busy and generally rather sane people, but down in Bath an event of glorious musical madness is about to happen. It's so blissfully silly, so sublimely pointless, that my pulse races even as I tap out these bizarre words. Over the three weekends of the forthcoming Bath Festival a group of pianists — some amateur, some professional, all bonkers — are attempting to play all the keyboard sonatas of the 18th-century Italian composer Domenico Scarlatti. So what do you think of that?

Well, readers unaccustomed to browsing lightly among the footnotes of the *New Grove Dictionary of Music* may not think much of it at all. Indeed, the words "so what?" may spring fully formed to callous lips. But let me say this, so that the full measure of the madness being planned in Bath may be grasped. Scarlatti wrote no fewer than 555 keyboard sonatas. What's more, they nearly all sound exactly the same.

Perhaps there are connoisseurs who can tell them apart. I daresay that there are also connoisseurs of the baked bean who can detect subtle variations in those saucy staples. But I think you get my drift. Playing all of Scarlatti's 555 three-minute sonatas is the musical equivalent of counting a very large flock of very small sheep. It's stamp-collecting with tunes. It's trainspotting minus the anoraks. But that is exactly what makes the daft exercise so fascinating.

Something deep in the human psyche responds to an irrational task of epic proportions. When Edmund Hillary was asked why he climbed Everest, he allegedly replied "Because it is there". I imagine that pianists taking part in the Scarlatti marathon would say much the same. Four years ago in Ohio 48,000 people performed the *Birdie Dance* in perfect *synchronisation. I expect they did* it because it was there, too.

Music is rich in epic challenges. As we report today (page 40) Gillian Weir is about to perform all of Olivier Messiaen's stupendously difficult organ music in Westminster Cathedral. Meanwhile at the Festival Hall Daniel Barenboim plays and conducts all Beethoven's symphonies and piano concertos in one heroic 12-day burst.

Similarly, the Dutch virtuoso Ton Koopman plans to record every note that Bach wrote — every organ piece, all 200 cantatas, everything — before he dies. He is halfway to his goal; on the other hand, he is 54 years old. Place your bets. Not to be outdone, the British conductor John Eliot Gardiner says that he will record all 200 cantatas *in a single year*. Why this macho race through Bach's music? Because it is there, obviously.

The same impulse must have spurred John Ogdon — that wonderful pianist whose life was tragically clouded by insanity — as he drove his fingers furiously through Kaikhosru Sorabji's ridiculous *Opus Clavicembalisticum* on a memorable night about ten years ago. We entered the Queen Elizabeth Hall at 6.15pm that evening, and left just before 11, happy in the belief that — although the music of the Chingford-born Sorabji was ghastly — we had at *least heard the longest piano piece* ever written.

Alas, even that consolation now seems mistaken. The latest *Guinness Book of Records* bestows the accolade on some dreary piece of American minimalism. Oh well, you can't win them all.

The urge to undertake giant performing projects is not confined to the musical world. Theatre critics still speak of Simon Callow's monumental National Theatre rendition of Shakespeare's 154 sonnets. At the Adelaide Festival recently I watched an Israeli company spend what seemed like an eternity staging the Bible. Thank God they were Jewish. If they had done the New Testament as well we would still be there.

But that show passed in a flash compared with my night watching Douglas Gordon's *24-Hour Psycho* — which, as its name suggests, is a screening of Hitchcock's *classic in such excruciating slow-motion* that it lasts 24 hours. You thought the shower scene was horrible enough at normal speed? Imagine it elongated to the length of *Parsifal*.

And still the marathons come. Last weekend that mad monarch of zany theatre, Ken Campbell, drew a crowd of diehard masochists to darkest Deptford for a 24-hour play called *The Warp* — a surreal romp which *he intends to repeat every Saturday night* (and indeed Sunday morning, noon and afternoon) this month. Only 24 hours, Ken? You wimp. Back in 1975 John Arden and his wife Margaretta d'Arcy collaborated on *The Non-Stop Connolly Show*, which clocked up 26 hours and 30 minutes in an infamous attempt to depict "noise, disorder, drunkenness, lasciviousness, nudity and corruption" on stage. Pointless, really: we can get all that from *Yesterday in Parliament*.

But even the Ardens' epic pales into insignificance beside Robert Wilson's *Ka Mountain*, a theatrical happening that ran for seven days at its premiere in Iran in 1972. They don't make 'em like that any more. Not in Iran, anyway.

But here we enter the realm of the professional mega-eccentrics — master mavericks such as Christo, who wraps entire mountains in silk, and David Mach, the sculptor who builds enormous objects out of coat-hangers. The beauty of Bath's Scarlatti marathon is that even mediocre mavericks can *throw in their three minutes'* worth. I wonder whether I should offer the Scarlatti sonata I learnt 30 years ago? Perhaps not. If I massacre it as badly as I did when I was 12 it would fit much better into *24-Hour Psycho*.

IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

Lights out for a new experience

For two months BAC will stage all its performances in darkness. Mad, or bold? Hettie Judah reports

We modern theatregoers have become rather spoilt: no production now seems to be complete without all manner of revolving stages, flying spirits and high-concept costumes. Growing ever closer to cinema, mainstream theatre could be seen as no longer a space to fire the imagination, rather an arena in which to be spoon-fed thrills.

Concerned that British audiences may soon evolve into a species of goggle-eyed auditorium potatoes, Battersea Arts Centre has taken up the low-tech offensive. For nine weeks this summer every performance event will take place in the dark; no laser shows, no state-of-the-art hydraulic systems, no opportunity to gaze longingly at the heroine's bot-



Tom Morris: "Theatre involves people totally"

tom; just a series of words, sounds, smells and textures.

Two months of blackness may sound like madness, but the season has attracted companies of a quite extraordinary calibre. Artists from the National Theatre will perform Shakespeare, violinist Takayoshi Wanami is hopping over from the Purcell Room for a recital, Theatre de Complicite and Improbable Theatre will both be experimenting away from their visual pyrotechnics, and all manner of comedians, poets, dramatists and raconteurs have jumped on board.

For the audience, the season will be an opportunity to let the imagination soar, to summon up for themselves the image of Glamis Castle, the suicide of Jocasta, pitched battles, sea monsters and all manner of dramatic phenomena beyond the scope of set designers.

Tom Morris, the director of the BAC, says this season is a logical extension of his programme all year round. "For me the only reason why people would bother to go to a theatre is that they become imaginatively involved in a way that is totally different from what happens on film or TV; it is much closer to what happens with a book."

On the kind of budget which precludes technological high-jinks, most of the companies which perform at BAC conjure up their dramatic world with physical techniques which ask the audience to use their imagination and meet them halfway. "Playing in the Dark" will take this process a step further, and give directors the opportunity to use some exciting but dramatically problematic new texts.

But why should audiences go to Battersea when they could simply plug themselves into Radio 4 for the afternoon? Because there is a difference between the experience of a performance and simply listening to the spoken word. Although playing in darkness, the actors will move around and through the audience. There will be a sense of action and immediacy.

Jean Bretherton of the Bretherton Consultancy, which will be serving "Dark Dinners" as part of the season, explains that, as a blind theatregoer, the sensation of being part of a group sharing the same experience is of great importance: "Listening to the radio just isn't giving you the same atmosphere or experience. The main thing is to show how sensory any theatre performance can be, whether you can see it or you can't."

If this all sounds a little wordy then you have only the paucity of your own imagination to blame. Bretherton, who has hosted a number of events in the dark, recalls a party where one guest became *mesmerised* by the anonymity of the darkness afforded him in a room full of people. Without telling anyone he quietly removed all his clothes and sat naked in the darkness as the hubbub of the party continued around him.

This summer, as you sit in the darkened audience of *Macbeth*, ponder exactly what it is that you can't see; then your imagination can really go wild.

● Playing in the Dark *is at BAC, Lavender Hill, Battersea (0171-223 2223) from May 12-July 12*

DEE CONWAY



Conor O'Brien as the central Lorca character, here in bridal guise (with Simon Cooper)

Poetry in the ring

DANCE

Cruel Garden

Apollo, Oxford

Federico Garcia Lorca was killed by Spanish Fascists in 1936. Rambert Dance Company's *Cruel Garden* lingers over the event, the dying poet tossed like a slab of meat from tormentor to tormentor, then struggling defiantly to stand before his final collapse. The scene is unashamed pathos — but it produces its intended heart-troubling effect.

Lindsay Kemp and Christopher Bruce teamed up in 1977 to make *Cruel Garden* for Rambert, a dance-theatre spectacle now revived for the centenary of Lorca's birth. As well as Ralph Koltai's superbly simple set — a bullring that sometimes opens up on vistas of countryside — *Cruel Garden* displays, for better and worse, all the lineaments of the Kemp style. It also contains Bruce's adept choreography which rephrases traditional folkloric forms into a modern idiom, as does Carlos Miranda's wonderfully elemental score, played by London Musici. Most of the musical and dance references are Spanish, except for an "America" section where Bruce includes an extraordinary *Solo for A Negro*, built from motifs of agony, labour and black jazz dance, and performed with a coiled power by Paul Liburd.

Rambert has cast this revival from strength, but also brought in the required singers — Judy Slater and François Testory — together with John Chesworth, who returns to his created role of Franco-like inquisitor. Christopher Bruce was the original central Lorca figure who appears successively as a matador, a bride, Buster Keaton (apropos Lorca's screenplay about the film star) and a dinner-jacketed poet. Conor O'Brien, who now *dances the role, has a vivid* presence and bears a resemblance to Bruce, although that may be partly due to the white make-up Kemp likes performers to wear.

Firmly in place are the other Kemp trademarks: the fantastical parade of archetypes; the sense of fugitive beauty; the sexual ambiguities; the dragbride with her oblique, scuttling walk and jerky stiffness of a puppet. In *Cruel Garden these come together in a* satisfyingly cohesive whole, marred only by the surrealist "America" passage which arrives with the incongruity of an ostrich striding into a flock of pigeons. Otherwise the personages form a dense, clever web of associations: the character called the bull, for example, starts as the matador's combatant, but then becomes the inquisitor's brutal henchman and, as such, the representative of masculinity and physical oppression.

The programme notes make much of the solitary poet as Christ-like prophet and martyr, but equally implicit is the theme of the homosexual as outcast. And what is the *Cruel Garden? It is Cocteau's bull*ring splattered with blood, and it is the Garden of Gethsemane; it is Lorca's imaginary world, and the real world around him.

NADINE MEISNER

Nightmare on Kane street

THEATRE

Three years ago Sarah Kane upset the squeamish with *Blasted*, a futuristic piece set in a war-torn Leeds where gouging out eyes and devouring dead babies were the moral norms. She is not likely to convert her foes with *Cleansed*, which is less coherent and, despite its nice sanitary title, almost uglier. Think of the sadistic tortures of Kafka's *Penal Colony* and the bureaucratic cruelties of Pinter's *Hothouse*; stir in the surreal violence of Bond's *Early Morning*; and you'll have the rough idea.

Where on earth did Kane go to college? The question arises because a post-prandial glance at the text revealed what was never clear during the performance. It is in "a university" *that the play's mutilations and* killings occur, most of them at the hands or behest of Stuart McQuarrie's Tinker, the place's black-clad dictator.

Kane's subject is presumably all soul-destroying institutions, and sexual confusion, obsession, anger and hatred too. Two men are in love. Tinker casually slices off the tongue, hands and feet of one, and cuts the other's throat. He drives a sad, illiterate student to suicide. He also spends a lot of time ogling a dancer in "the



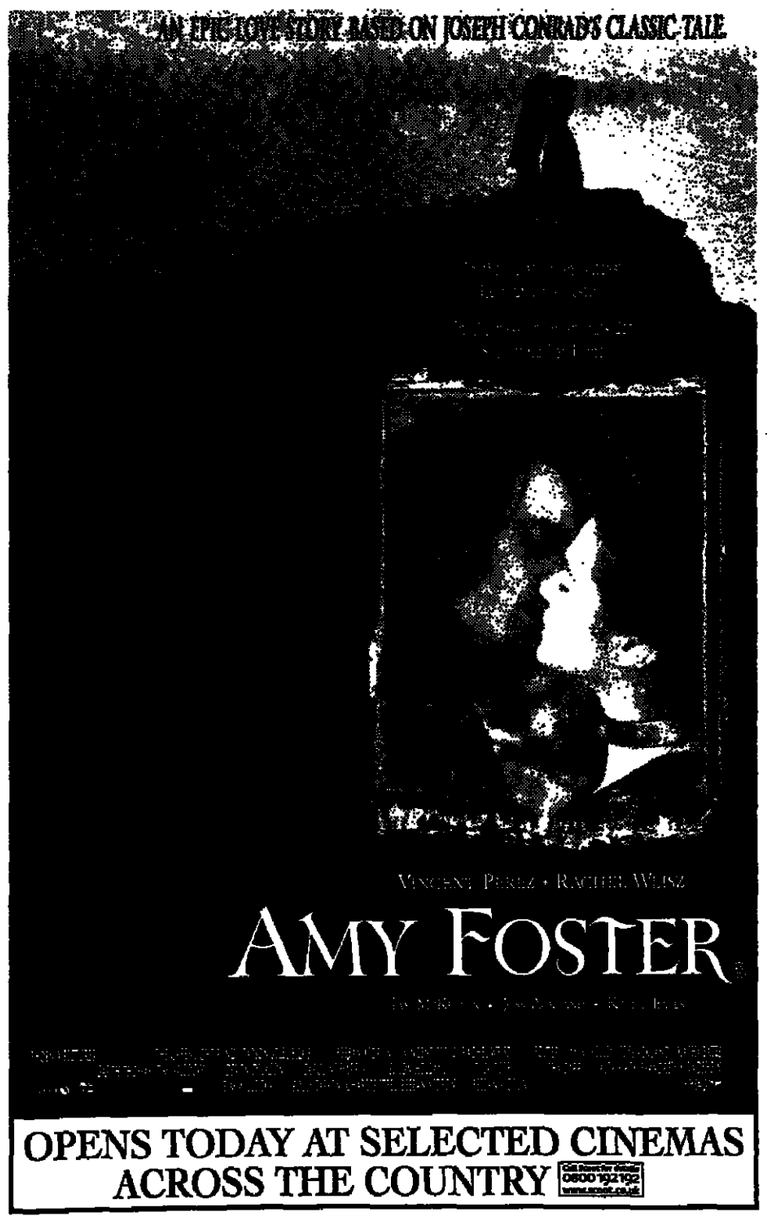
Look, no hands: James Cunningham as Carl

showers in the university sports hall converted to peep-show booths", pretending to himself she is Suzan Sylvester's Grace, the sister of a drug addict he has murdered.

With her brother's ghost haunting Grace, and Grace herself not only committing incest with the dead boy but (thanks to Tinker's skills, as a sex-change surgeon) actually becoming his dead spit, the play's idiom resists easy or even uneasy summary. Nor are the laws governing reality or unreality made clearer by James Macdonald's production, which is variously naturalistic, nightmarish, stylised, and evasive. Furniture tilts at odd angles in Jeremy Herbert's stark-white, red or black box-set. Savage beatings are mimed, as, more cautiously, is savage sex. But it takes a peek at the text to twig that bits of brains are "burned out"; and, with furry toy-rodents and *Noh-play cloth substituting* for blood, the stage-direction "the rats carry Carl's feet away" produces less horrid results than it might.

Not that I'm complaining about that. Indeed, if Macdonald's production were more understated we might find it *easier to buy Kane's conclu*sion, which is that a certain tenderness survives in the human jungle. But that would be to distort her vision, which is unforgiving to the point of implacability. She is not the gloating opportunist that some reviewers of *Blasted thought; she has, I feel, no less* integrity than Pinter or Bond; but, God knows, I would hate to live in her head.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE





■ POP

Footie ditties are back

ARTS

■ JAZZ

Hail to a Cuban legend

The FA may run English football, but it knows nil-nil about football *songs*: witness the choice of World Cup anthem

Throw it away, gonna throw it away



They possess the worst, weakest, scraggly voices ever committed to vinyl, but David Baddiel and Frank Skinner know how to write a footie ditty



CAITLIN MORAN

Arsenal won the Premiership on Sunday. We live about half a mile away from Highbury, so our street was swiftly filled with guttersnipes and their fizzing gutterdads, all raising cracked hosannas and trying to dance with the paving, cheek to cheek. After half an hour of voyeurism we popped a six-pack in the glove compartment, picked up our mates from over the road and drove up Seven Sisters Road towards the dancing, honking epicentre.

Even though my fellow is Man United, and I support anyone who looks upset about losing, and my mate's fire-and-brimstone Liverpool, and his missus is so blithely unconcerned by the whole process that only yesterday she asked him who Roy Evans supports, we spent a good two hours hanging out of the car windows, hailing Arsène Wenger's red and white army, shouting "Goooooners", allowing people to dance on our bonnet, and hammering on the car horn while spilling beer all over the party dips wedged on the dashboard.

Atmospheres like that are spontaneous creations: no amount of money or organisation can make people dance in the streets of N19. This is why the Football Association's decision to hold a competition for the Official England Song for the World Cup — king god event of dancing in the streets, united world delirium *plus* Panini sticker book joy — sucked like a Dyson. As they announced six months ago, the FA wanted something to replace Baddiel, Skinner and the Lightning Seeds' *Three Lions*, whether it's official or not. When even *This Morning*'s Judy Finnegan sings a football song (in the rather touching week she got excited about Euro '96), then that's your public mood in a jam jar.

Aware of this, the FA is trying to stop the re-release of *Three Lions* — something rather more futile than trying to stop the Moon spinning with a chopstick — in order to let its new song flourish. And England's Official *new* World Cup Song is *Top of the World* by England United — Echo and The Bunnymen joined by the Spice Girls, Tommy from Space and a cast that I'm already too depressed to finish.

Too wordy, too weedy, too nothing and yet too much at the same time, *Top of the World* is already the rancid blob of hollandaise on the silk shirt of summer. A chorus that expects its audience to sing "How does it feel/To be on top of the world?/Now its for real/You're the top of the world", when it just wants to shout "Football's coming home!" is very foolish. The "band" is a sorrily chosen pick'n'mix. The Spice Girls were presumably pencilled in to sing on whatever song won the competition and the rest look like the mis-shapen pears thrown into the bag to round up the weight.

Despite *Three Lions* being a frank and full exposé of the three worst, the very, very worst, weakest, scraggly, honking, broken voices ever committed to vinyl, at least Baddiel and Skinner knew their football and the Lightning Seeds' *Life of Riley* is used on *Match of the Day*. Echo and The Bunnymen's Ian McCulloch, on the other hand, looks palely, rock-starrily unfootball, like he'd burst a ball with one flashing incisor if it came anywhere near him.

If the FA really wanted to move away from *Three Lions*, it should have plumped for something that sounded a bit less than entirely like *Life of Riley* played by an Eng Lit student. If, instead of a futile competition, the FA had dug out *Umbabarauma* by Jorge Ben, the fond memory of Baddiel breaking melodies with his big lager mouth would have faded from the national consciousness in seconds. When *Umbabarauma* breaks down into handclaps, slapped bongos and call-and-response arpeggios, it recalls the theme to *The Italian Job* played by pumas. It's the sexiest football song ever.

Failing that, the real and obvious candidate for the Official World Cup song has been staring us all wildly in the eye for some time. Adam and Joe, comic visionaries from Channel 4's *Adam and Joe Show*, unveiled their *Football Song* last year. Self-admittedly ignorant and hateful toward football, Adam and Joe matched a wondrously moronic tune to lines such as: "When I get to Villa/ My view's obscured by a pillar" and a chorus that runs "Ball ball ball/Footie footie footie/Ball ball ball/ Foot/ Kick/Goal." If I was England United's Ian McCulloch, I'd hang my head in shame every day that two comedians had written a better football song than me. Which, of course, brings us back to *Three Lions* again . . .

Banda on the run

LA BANDA
Traditional Italian Banda/Banda and Jazz
(Enja ENJ-9326 22)

THOSE intrigued by the freshness, vitality and elegant exuberance of contemporary Italian jazz will easily discern many of the roots of the music's spirit in this two-CD set. Documenting a performance in Germany by the Banda Citta Ruvo di Puglia, the albums focus first on the traditional banda repertoire — Bizet's *Toreador*, Verdi's *La Donna e Mobile*, etc. — then concentrate on compositions and arrangements by the "jazz" element. These combine

JAZZ ALBUMS

considerable improvisational freedom with the disciplined "whump" of the banda, and the two selections featuring the richly emotive voice of singer/composer Lucilla Galeazzi are particular highlights.

Embracing a rich variety of Italian music from opera, through Nino Rota's film music, to folk and jazz, *La Banda* is an unalloyed delight.

BILLY JENKINS
The True Love Collection
(Babel BDV9821)

ANOTHER CD packed with serious fun, *The True Love Collection* takes a selection of 1960s and 1970s love songs and subjects them to the full Billy Jenkins treatment. The good (Martha and the Vandellas' *Dancing in the Street*), the bad (the Bee Gees' *How Deep is Your Love*) and the ugly (the Carpenters' *Yesterday Once More*) are all represented, along with such gems as *Mellow Yellow*, *Everybody's Talkin'*, *Sunny* and *Feelin' Groovy*, each introduced by a free-for-all "invocation", most of them in early jazz-fusion style.

Jenkins's scrabbling guitar and Iain Ballamy's relatively straight-faced saxophone playing are well to the fore, but the real revelation is Christine Tobin's searingly soulful voice.

CHRIS PARKER



Former Fairground Attraction turned hard-pressed single mother, Eddi Reader makes time to make music

It doesn't have to be-ee-ee-ee perfect

A decade ago, Eddi Reader looked to be a big winner in the pop lottery. Fairground Attraction, the band she fronted briefly, scored a No 1 with their debut single *Perfect*, then followed up with a chart-topping album, *First of a Million Kisses*. To the outside world, the girl from the Glasgow council estates looked to be *quids in*, made for life.

But her story had a less than happy ending. The group disbanded rancorously, evaporating at the same speed with which it had first appeared. And her personal life too was chaotic. Reader married and had two children, Charlie, now nine, and Sam, five, but found herself bringing them up alone when her partner left and moved to Europe. It was a case of *Top of the Pops* one minute, Mum's Gone to Iceland the next.

When fame died for Eddi Reader, harsh reality took over. So she learnt from both

But she is a survivor and now, at 37, has managed to balance the *often* conflicting demands of parenting and professional musicianship. "I'm in a good place now, *with one foot on* Planet Motherhood and the other on Planet Creativity, but it's taken me a long time to get here," the singer and sometimes actress says. "I used to think there could be no balance, that it was all one thing or the other."

> "I was afraid I'd lose contact with music"

Since the Fairground days, there have been three solo albums, regular live dates and a Brit Award as Best British Female Singer. But, she admits, there were times when she doubted if she would get to make a fourth LP (that album, *Angels & Electricity*, is released by Warner Bros on Monday). "I didn't use to be so good at organising my time, and was often left trying to figure out how to keep a career going. *The children's father* just isn't around. I'd tried nannies and it hadn't really worked. I was very frightened I'd lose my connection with music altogether."

The support she needed came both from her own parents in Scotland, who step in to child-mind whenever needed, and from an informal network of women in the South London street where she otherwise lives. "There's one particular woman who's been brilliant, a kind of hippy Earth Mother type," Reader says. "She's single, loves music, and has helped me loads. The result is that I've been able to cut loose once or twice a week and work on my music."

Angels & Electricity has, she believes, benefited from the semi-adverse conditions in which it was conceived. "I'm at my best when I have something to kick against," she says. "As a child on the estates, growing up amid the gang warfare and that whole Protestant-Catholic thing and feeling that there was no safe place for me, singing was my escape route. It was the same when I'd left school and was signing on or working in a factory. Hearing something great on the radio could lift my mood *and sustain me* throughout the day, and I suppose that what I now hope for as a maker of music myself is to have that same positive effect on someone else."

The songs are mostly original, written by Reader with her longtime friend and musical collaborator Boo Hewerdine (an exception is *On a Whim*, a gift from the young Canadian singer-songwriter Ron Sexsmith) and are presented in simple, acoustic settings that allow her *intimate but athletic voice to* shine. That voice is quite an instrument, and could easily be put to fashionably overwrought use, were such a style to her personal taste.

"I don't knock singers like Celine Dion or Mariah Carey — they have fantastic voices and I absolutely love their technical ability," she says. If *there were a singing Olympics*, I'd be there in the front row, cheering them on.

"What I can't stand, though, is the subject matter of so many hits performed by women. Have you listened to LeAnn Rimes' *How Do I Live*? A lyric that says you're nothing without someone else isn't about love, it's about dominance, possession and hatred. It makes me want to get up and shake the person singing it, *tell them to stop* peddling these lies to kids."

ALAN JACKSON

Singer Compay Segundo is Cuban, very trendy – and 90

The old man and the sí

It is not every day that you hear young members of an audience chanting the name of a singer old enough to be their great-grandfather. But when the 90-year-old Compay Segundo sang at Paris's Olympia concert hall last month, it was a rare opportunity to see history made flesh.

Segundo, who brings his effervescent folk melodies to the Barbican tomorrow, is another of the musicians to have benefited from the upsurge of interest in all things Cuban. Like the pianist Ruben Gonzalez, who came to London last month, the singer finds himself in demand far from his native land.

Born Francisco Repilado, he gained his nickname in the 1940s, when he and fellow-singer Lorenzo Hierrezuelo formed an immensely popular duo called Los Compadres. Hierrezuelo, who took care of the lead vocals, became known as Compay Primo, Repilado as Compay Segundo.

His rebirth on the international stage took place in 1989 when he was invited to perform at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. Just as the black American troubadour Leadbelly had been fêted by the Library of Congress half a century earlier, so Segundo was rightly acclaimed as a walking repository of his country's fertile musical tradition. Not that there was anything academic or museum-like about his Paris concert. Segundo's journey through the vintage rhythms of the son, bolero and guaracha is entirely unself-conscious, down to the singalong on that well-worn anthem *Guantanamera*.

He has lost none of his appetite for life's pleasures. Women and cigars, he says, are the great passions of his life. He smoked his first cigar at the age of five, following the example, he says, of his grandmother, a freed slave who lived to the age of 115. In his middle years, when his music fell out of fashion, he spent more than a decade and a half making a living rolling cigars, escaping to the recording studios whenever friends asked him to join them on a session.

The Olympia might at first have seemed too large a venue for music as intimate as this. But Hugo Garzón's singing, Segundo's surprisingly forceful harmonies and the seamless acoustic backing (with the old man's son Salvador furnishing the supple bass lines) drew the listener into the very heart of each song.

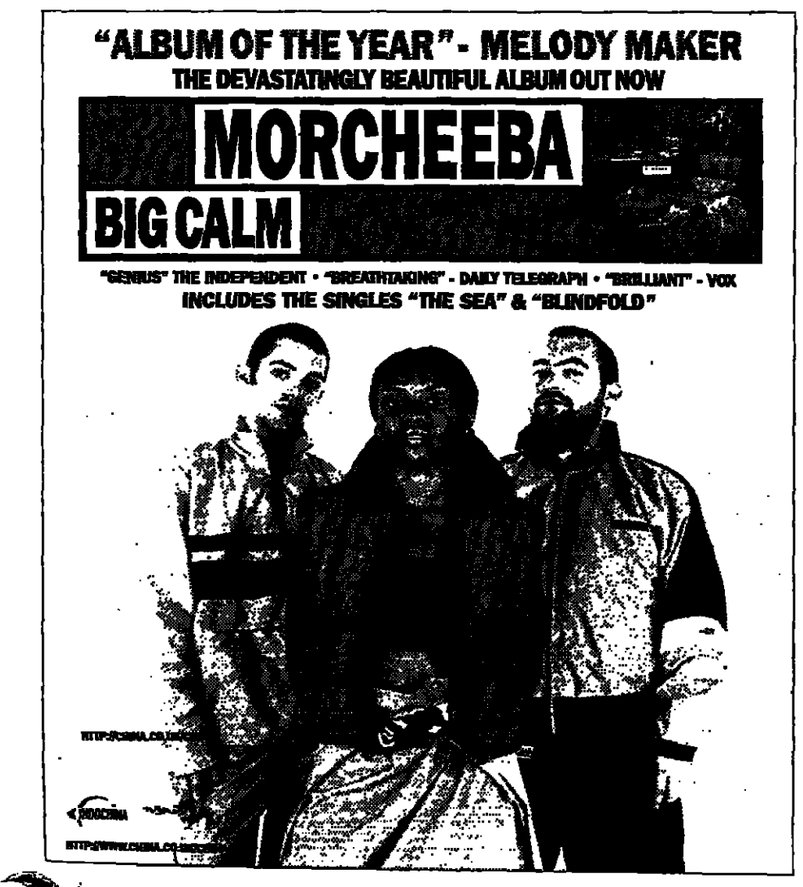
The flow of guest performers brought variety to what amounted to a lavish preview of the new album, *Lo Mejor de la Vida*. Two of Segundo's oldest collaborators, the singers Pio Leyva and Omara Portuondo, were on hand to recreate duets such as *La Pluma* (composed by Segundo as a jingle for the Papermate pen company 50 years ago).

CLIVE DAVIS

● *Compay Segundo plays the Barbican, Silk Street, London EC2 (0171-638 8891) tomorrow night.*



Watch out, London. Here comes Compay Segundo



هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

■ NEW ALBUMS
Garbage they aren't

ARTS

■ GIGS
Guy Clark's Texan charm

A tip for the top, if ever there was one



Three middle-aged American bods and one much younger Scots chanteuse make up Garbage, whose second album is even better than their first

NEW POP ALBUMS

GARBAGE
Version 2.0
(Mushroom MUSH29 £15.49)
MAKING great pop music is a complicated business these days. It is not enough to have good songs; you must also have exactly the right sounds and rhythms. Being young and glamorous is definitely a help, but experience and know-how count for more than ever before in realising even the most simple idea. And then you need that frisson of danger, a twist of dark, slightly ironic, 1990s negativity to give your music a grainy matt finish rather than an over-shiny gloss.

Garbage have got the lot, perhaps unsurprisingly given that the musical marriage between the three middle-aged American producer/musicians and their younger Scottish singer, Shirley Manson, was initially arranged as if through the offices of a computer dating agency.

More surprising is the cool chemistry which the group has evolved, a communal sense of poise and purpose that has enabled them to rise above their prefabricated origins, both on their four-million-selling debut album and now on their second, *Version 2.0*.

While her colleagues, Duke Erikson, Steve Marker and Butch Vig, play the part of the men in white coats, Manson takes the role of both beauty and beast. "I am a wolf but I like to wear sheep's clothing," she purrs at the beginning of the album's opening track, *Temptation Waits*, while an electronic beat drives the song through a haze of shimmering keyboards, wah-wah guitar and background sound effects towards the first of many soaring choruses.

The tension between ultra-modern production and traditional songwriting craft provides the perfect springboard for Manson to shine, and she delivers her heart-of-glass lyrics to especially good effect on a gorgeous homage to the Pretenders' Chrissie Hynde called *Special* and the galloping 140bpm romp *When I Grow Up*. "I'm trying to mend my wicked ways," she sings on a vaguely Clash-esque stomp called *Wicked Ways*. Now that would be a pity.

UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH
Almost Here
(Virgin *VX2849* £13.99)
HAVING been widely tipped at the beginning of the year as one of the new British bands most likely to make a mark in 1998, Unbelievable Truth weigh in with their debut album, *Almost Here*, an unhurried collection of ruminations performed in an unfashionably austere acoustic-rock idiom.

Substitute a mellotron for the string arrangements on tracks such as *Finest Little Space* and there would be little to choose between this and the progressive-rock noodling of Barclay James Harvest and Marillion. The album is saved from such comparisons by the graceful nuances and heartfelt lyrics of songs such as *Solved* and *Stone* and by the performance of Andy Yorke, whose singing throughout the collection seems to draw on a bottomless well of bruised emotion.

Like his brother, Thom Yorke of Radiohead, or Adam Duritz of Counting Crows, Yorke inhabits his songs in a way that elevates the expression of melancholia to something approaching a fine art form. "My soul is defended by the will to stay alive/For some unknown reason, I can't keep that will for long," he sings in *Higher than Reason*. Sorrow has rarely sounded so inviting.

LENNY KRAVITZ
5
(Virgin VUS 140 £15.99)
KNOCKED back by the Britpop revolution and finding himself increasingly cut off from fresh sources of inspiration, Lenny Kravitz had to make some hard decisions in the wake of the disappointing sales of his previous album, *Circus*, released in 1995.

While *5* is hardly the work of an artist reborn, it does show evidence of a determination to blow away some of the cobwebs. The first Kravitz album to be recorded digitally, it incorporates modern production techniques and 1990s dance rhythms alongside Kravitz's old-school, heavy funk guitar riffing and a brass section deployed to brilliant effect on *Live* and *Straight Cold Player*. With its melancholy tune and aching guitar solo, *If You Can't Say No* is his best single in a long time.

What Kravitz needs now is some decent lyrics. At the very least there should be someone on hand to steer him away from verses that go "I wish that I could fly/Into the sky/So very high/Just like a dragonfly".

SONIC YOUTH
A Thousand Leaves
(Geffen GED 25203 £15.99)
In the eternal quest to discover exactly how long a band can patrol that dangerous parcel of territory on the cutting edge of rock before toppling off, few artists can equal the efforts of Sonic Youth, especially now that the Fall have apparently collapsed.

But as their name becomes ever more glaringly incongruous with their veteran status, and the juvenile arm of the music press begins to regard them as a bit of a joke, the Youth continue to make the usual avant-garde moves on their fourteenth album, *A Thousand Leaves*, an artful musical blend of unnatural calm and random violence.

Some of the strumming and humming on *Hoarfrost* and *Hits of Sunshine* is very pretty, while the screeching amps and mad, cackling laughter on *The Ineffable Me* sound suitably deranged. But it all has a somewhat familiar ring, and one is ultimately left to ponder the nagging conundrum: is it possible for a group of continuously restless experimenters and upsetters of apple carts eventually to get stuck in a rut by doing just that?

DAVID SINCLAIR

TOP TEN ALBUMS

1	(1)	Mezzanine	Massive Attack (Virgin)
2	(3)	International Velvet	Catatonia (Blanco y Negro)
3	(2)	Life Thru a Lens	Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)
4	(6)	Ray of Light	Madonna (Maverick)
5	(7)	Urban Hymns	Verve (Hut)
6	(4)	The Best of	James (Fontana)
7	(5)	Let's Talk About Love	Celine Dion (Epic)
8	(10)	Essentials	George Benson (Warner.ESP/Jive)
9	(12)	All Saints	All Saints (London)
10	(9)	Titanic Soundtrack	James Horner (Sony Classical)

Copyright CIN — *Figure in brackets denotes last week's position*

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

Lost classics from a cult Texan

LIVE GIG
Guy Clark
Music Centre, Dublin

If the definition of a cult figure is someone who is a household name only in the houses of their peers and the critics, then Guy Clark certainly qualifies for that dubious honour. Revered by his fellow singer/songwriters, his songs have been recorded by everyone from Johnny Cash to Robert Forster. And yet, outside that golden circle, he remains a relatively unknown quantity.

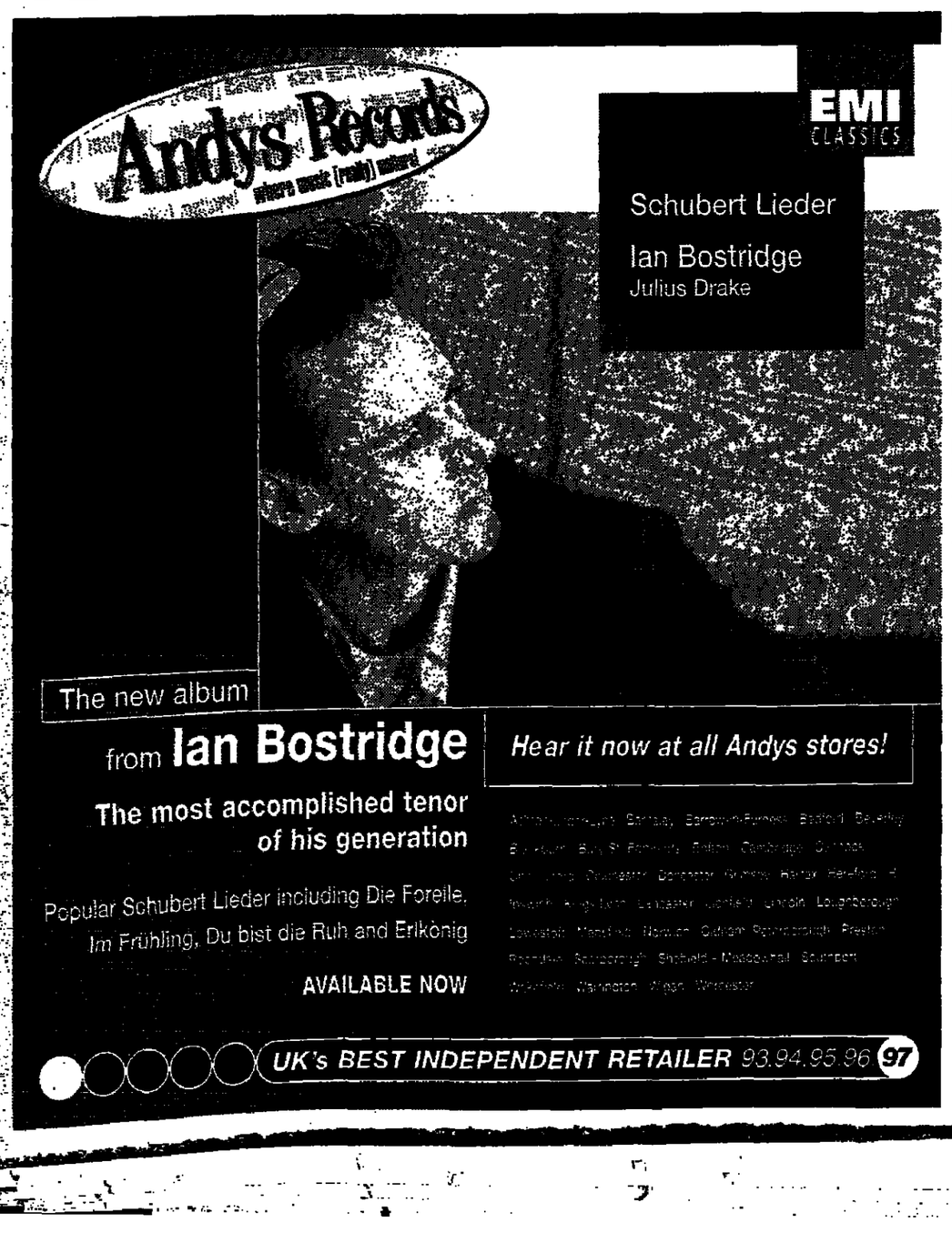
He has been based in Nashville since 1971, yet the mental and physical terrain of his songs is undeniably that of his birthplace, Texas. From the shipyards of the Gulf Coast to the brothels of west Texas, Clark's narratives chronicle the broken dreams and tentative hopes of the good citizens of the Lone Star State with the economy and precision of a master storyteller. Of his own generation of folk/country troubadours, only the late Townes Van Zandt, a longtime friend who, sadly, ate his last meal as a guest in Clark's house, could blend poetry and pathos with such conviction.

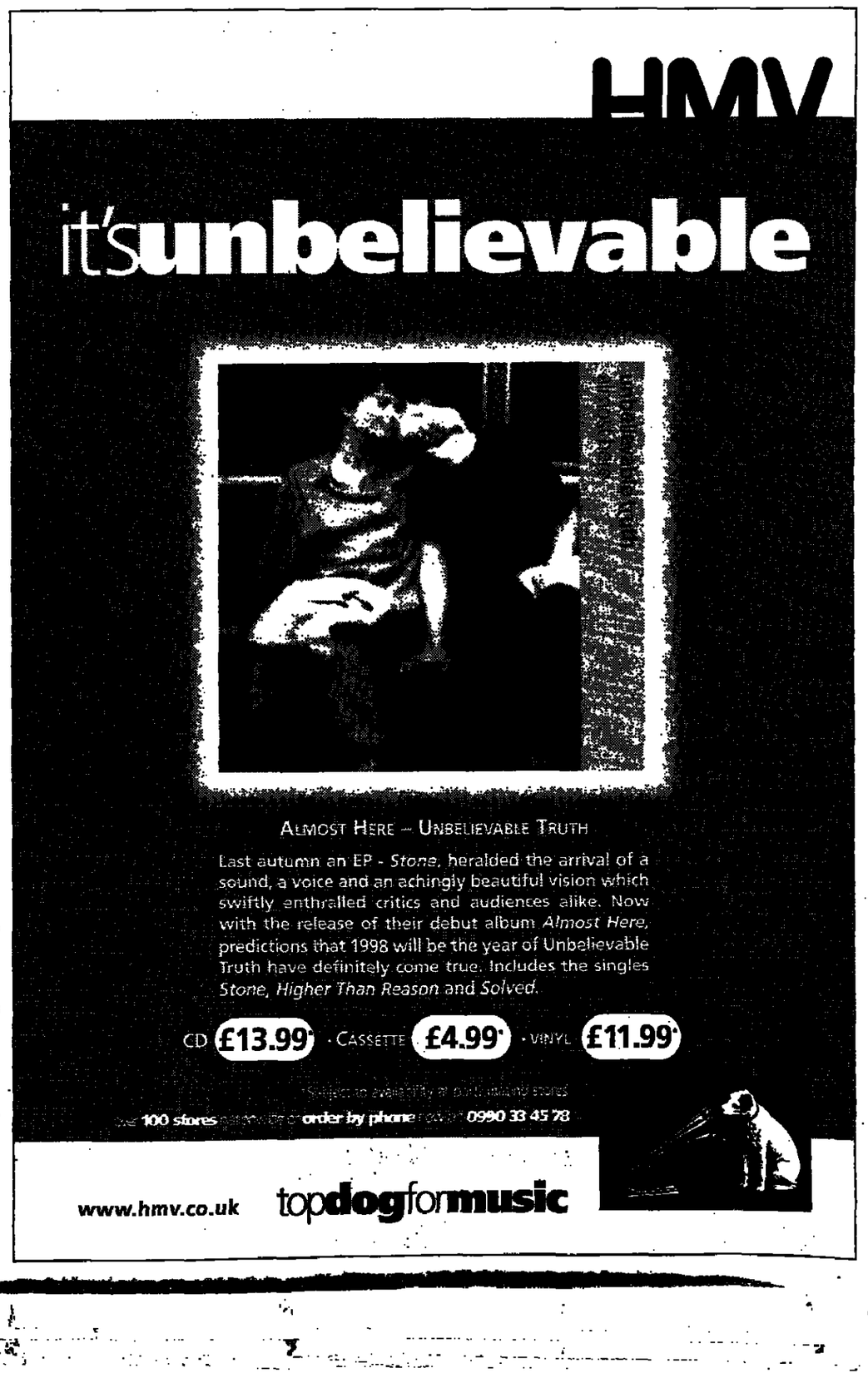
The intimate, nocturnal surroundings of the Music Centre (capacity 400 with the seats in) in Dublin's Temple Bar district was the perfect crucible for Clark to work his artistic alchemy. Before he took the stage, the mood had already been set: hypnotic speckles of white light were thrown around the venue by a rotating mirror ball to the mellow sound of Neil Young's *Harvest* on backing tape.

The show itself was a resolutely informal affair as Clark, adept at witty repartee, dispensed with a set list and dutifully took requests from his loving audience. He got through most of them, too: the train songs, the love songs, the quirky lightweight songs depicting culinary pleasures, the crushing songs of loss. If anything, they were all far more affecting performed solo than on record. *LA Freeway*, for instance, shows off Clark's husky, lived-in voice as never before, while *Let Him Roll*, a heart-shattering tale of a man's doomed love for a prostitute, sounds all the more poignant thanks to the simplicity of the picking on the sole acoustic guitar.

Lost classic follows lost classic and it becomes increasingly obvious why Clark is held in such esteem by his contemporaries. *Broken Hearted People* could make a stone bleed, while the finale, *Randall Knife*, a haunting elegy on the death of his father, investigates chambers of the heart that science has yet to discover.

NICK KELLY





LISTINGS

Brighton goes festive

ARTS

MUSIC

Opera's rising stars

LONDON

THE BREAKFAST SOLDIERS: Kabe Hems's sometimes surreal comedy from Manchester's Contact Theatre, set in 1919 in a household recovering from the war. Highly praised performance from Rosalind Philips as a young widow. Finborough, 118 Finborough Road, SW10 (0171-373 3842). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Tue-Sun, 8.30pm

HYMN TO LOVE: Elizabeth Mansfield performs Edith Piaf's songs in a show devoted to her life and work, written by Steve Trafford, directed by Anne Castledine. Drill Hall, Chenies Street, W1 (0171-637 8270). Previews from tonight, 7.30pm. Opens May 12, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm. Until June 6

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Two noted string players, the violinist Alexander Baranitschi and the cellist Tim Hugh, join the LSO under Sir Colin Davis in Brahms's Double Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra. The evening concludes with a performance of Elgar's First Symphony. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Sunday, 7.30pm.

EISLER CENTENARY: An afternoon and evening given over to celebrating the life and music of Hans Eisler, familiar to many for his collaborations with Bertolt Brecht, culminates in a concert (7.45pm) by the London Sinfonietta under H.K. Gruber. The programme includes *Die Mutter*, Suite for Orchestra No 3, and a UK premiere of *Zeitstimmung*. With the baritone Omar Ebrahim as soloist. Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242).

ELSEWHERE

BRIGHTON: Richard Hickox takes the rostrum as the London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Brighton Festival Chorus combine forces for a performance of Tippett's wartime oratorio *A Child of Our Time*. A fine-up of distinguished soloists includes the mezzo Jean Rigby and bass Roderick Williams. The concert also includesCopland's Clarinet Concerto and *Fanfare for the Common Man*. Dome, 29 New Road, (01273 709709) Tomorrow, 8pm.

LEEDS: Steven Sloane, soon to take over asmusic director of Opera North, makes his conducting debut with the company in a new production of Eugene Onegin, Tchaikovsky's tale of missed opportunities based on a story by Pushkin. Alwyn Mellor sings the role of the infatuated Tatyana, with Peter Savidge in the title role. Dalia Ibelhauptaite directs. Grand Theatre, 46 New Briggate (0113-245 9351/440971). Tomorrow, 7.15pm.

LEICESTER: Gabrielle Drake plays Judith Bliss in Hay Fever, Coward's masterly comedy of dreadful manners, directed by Paul Kenyon. Haymarket, Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797). In preview, 7.30pm. Opens May 13, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed (May 20, 27), 2pm, Sat (from May 16), 2.30pm. Until May 30.

MANCHESTER. The past blends with the present in this concert as the noted chamber ensemble the Manchester Camerata, with Kyoko Tabe as soloist, performs the UK premiere of Yoshimatsu's Piano Concerto. This is flanked by Mozart's Symphony No 40 and Mendelssohn's *Italian Symphony*. Conductor is Sachio Fujioka. Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Watercolours by Turner from the R.W. Lloyd Bequest (0171-323 8525) . . . **Camden Arts Centre:** Marie José Burki/Carsten Höller (0171-4352643) . . . **Dulwich:** Italy in the Age of Turner (0181-693 5254) . . . **Hayward:** Anish Kapoor (0171-928 3144) . . . **Museum of the Moving Image:** Hammer Horror (0171-815 1350) . . . **National:** Masters of Light: Dutch Painters in Utrecht during the Golden Age (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Maritime Museum:** Peter the Great in England, 1698 (0181-312 6745) . . . **Royal Academy:** Icons and the rise of Moscow (0171-300 8000) . . . **Tate:** Turner and the Scientists (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** The Power of the Poster (0171-938 8349/8441)

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie



Sachio Fujioka conducts the Manchester Camerata

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **ART:** Richard Griffiths, Malcolm Storry and Tony Haygarth in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm

◪ **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST:** Disney's film turned into a hit Broadway musical. Julie-Alanah Brighten and Alasdair Harvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 6060). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 2.30pm.

◪ **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE:** Trevor Nunn's richly detailed Ibsen, with Ian McKellen as the awkward hero. Back in the repertoire until June. National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. In repertoire.

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Now in its fifth London theatre, Peter Hall's excellent production, brimful of deceptions. With Christopher Cazenove, Kate O'Mara, Simon Ward. Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

☐ **THE MISANTHROPE:** Elaine Page plays Célimenè, with Michael Pennington as Alceste in a cast that includes Anna Carteret, Peter Bowles and David Yelland. Peter Hall directs a new translation of Molière by Ranjit Bolt. Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734). Tomorrow, 3pm and 7.45pm. In repertoire

☐ **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING:** Michael Boyd's not-very-funny production, with Alex Jennings and Siobhan Redmond. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.15pm; mat tomorrow, 2pm. In repertoire.

◪ **NAKED,** Juliette Binoche now in the West End playing the traumatised Prandello heroine. Transfer of Jonathan Kent's mesmeric production from the Almeida. Playhouse, Northumberland Ave, WC2 (0171-839 4401). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until May 30.

☐ **THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND/BLACK COMEDY:** Inspired coupling of Stoppard's parody whodunit and Shaffer's light-for-dark farce. Greg Doran's excellent cast includes Desmond Barrit, David Tennant, Sara Crowe, Nichola McAuliffe. Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER:** Stage version of the film musical, starring Adam Garcia as Tony Manero, with two new Bee Gee songs. Choreographed and directed by Arlene Phillips. Palladium, Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm.

☐ **SAUCY JACK AND THE SPACE VIXENS:** David Schofield plays the saucy one in sci-fi musical, described as super-cool and deliciously decadent. Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Thur, 8pm; Fri, 5.30pm and 8.30pm; Sat, 4pm and 8.30pm.

☐ **SILAS MARNER:** Geoffrey Beevers follows his excellent adaptation of George Eliot's *Adam Bede* with her famous tale of a child who melts a miser's heart. Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thur (April 30), 2.30pm, Sat, 4pm. Until May 16.

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Cats:** New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ■ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . ◪ **Miss Saigon:** Drury Lane (0171-494 5400) . . . ◪ **The Mousetrap:** St Martin's (0171-836 1443) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Smokey Joe's Cafe:** Prince of Wales (0171-839 5987) . . . ◪ **Starlight Express:** Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

AMY FOSTER (12): Synthetic period drama about two romantic outcasts, with Rachel Weisz and Vincent Perez. Director, Beeban Kidron. ABC Shaftesbury Av (0171-836 6279)

THE HANGING GARDEN (15): Gay man returns home to find a house full of memories. Exuberantly poetic Canadian film from new director Thom Fitzgerald, with Chris Leavins, Kerry Fox and Troy Veinotte. ABCs: Panton Street (0171-930 0631) Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

LOLITA (18): Unsubtle adaptation of Nabokov's novel about a literature professor's obsession with a nymphet. With Jeremy Irons and Dominique Swain. Director, Adrian Lyne. Virgin Haymarket (0870-907 0712)

◆ **MARTHA — MEET FRANK, DANIEL AND LAURENCE** (15): Three London friends get entangled with a visiting American. Pallid 1990s version of a swinging 1960s comedy. With Monica Potter, Rufus Sewell, Tom Hollander and Joseph Fiennes. Director, Nick Hamm. Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys (0990 888990) Virgin Chelsea (0870-907 0710)

SHALL WE DANCE? (PG): Middle-aged businessman gets a new lease of life when he learns ballroom dancing. Friendly Japanese film, a big international hit. Barbican (0171-638 8891) Chelsea (0171-351 3742) Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) Richmond (0181-332 0000) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Hill (0171-435 3566)

SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN (PG): Laughably old-fashioned romantic drama about a cancer sufferer and a rebellious pianist finding salvation in Italy. With William McNamara and Maria Pitillo. Director, John Hough. Virgin Trocadero (0870-907 0716)

WESTERN (15): Two foreigners cement their odd friendship travelling round Brittany. Indulgent French comedy, with Sergei Lopez and Sacha Bourdo. Director, Manuel Poirier. Renoir (0171-837 8402)

WILD MAN BLUES (12): Fascinating documentary portrait of Woody Allen, touring Europe with his New Orleans jazz band. Director, Barbara Kopple. Metro (0171-437 0757) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772)

CURRENT

◆ **BREAKDOWN** (15): Kurt Russell and wife, crossing the States by car, fall prey to extortionists in the desert. Tense thriller, with J. T. Walsh. Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Marble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) West End (0181-315 4221) UCI Whiteleys (0990 888990)

MY SON THE FANATIC (15): Fetching multi-cultural comedy-drama, written by Hanif Kureishi, with Om Puri as the Pakistani taxi-driver increasingly estranged from his family. Gate (0171-727 4043) Odeon Haymarket (0181-315 4212) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520)

◆ **SLIDING DOORS** (15): Sacked PR Gwyneth Paltrow finds a new life and boyfriend: or does she? Pleasant romantic comedy, less complex than its fancy structure suggests. With John Hannah. Writer-director, Peter Howitt. ABCs: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) Barbican (0171-638 8891) Empire (0990 888990) Notting Hill Coronet (0171-727 9705) UCI Whiteleys (0990 888990) Virgins: Fulham Road (0870-907 0711) Trocadero (0870-907 0716)

◆ **U TURN** (18): Lust, violence and greed in a small Arizona town. Outlandish, jaunty and jangling delight from director Oliver Stone. Warner (0171-437 4343)

Catholic in his tastes

All of Olivier Messiaen's stupendous organ music is to be played in London. **Barry Millington** reports



The marathon season is upon us. No sooner have tens of thousands of intrepid runners pounded their way through London than Daniel Barenboim arrives to traverse Beethoven's complete symphonies and piano concertos. Now, in a series of six recitals at Westminster Cathedral beginning on Tuesday, Dame Gillian Weir processes magisterially through Messiaen's entire oeuvre for organ. This is no mere endurance test, however: the series, titled *The Celestial Banquet*, has been designed as "a celebration of the music and spirituality of Olivier Messiaen" for the 90th anniversary of his birth, and the intention is that this unique corpus of works will be illuminated within a liturgical and spiritual context.

The *Messe de la Pentecôte*, for example, will be heard on May 19 in conjunction with movements from Dufay's *Missa L'Homme Armé* (Messiaen composed this work to accompany various parts of the Low Mass of Whit Sunday), as well as Gregorian chants used in the music (performed by the cathedral choir), while Father Cormac Rigby will be on hand throughout the series to explore the imagery and inspiration of the music with the relevant scriptural quotations.

Other Messiaen works will help to set the context, too: the *Quartet for the End of Time* will be given by the Le Huray Ensemble back-to-back with the equally apocalyptic *Livre d'Orgue* (June 9), and movements from the *Vingt Regards sur l'Enfant Jésus* for piano will be performed by Roderick Chadwick on the same evening as *La Nativité du Seigneur* (May 12), whose Christmas theme it shares.

This imaginatively integrated cycle is another milestone for Westminster Cathedral and its Master of Music, James O'Donnell. Last year they presented a trailblazing festival titled *Widor and the Saint-Sulpice Tradition*, which won plaudits for its programming of rare repertoire as well as the quality of the playing.

O'Donnell, who was only 26 when he was appointed Master of Music in 1988 — itself a remarkable achievement in a world dominated by dinosaurs, dodos and other extinct species — has brought the cathedral and its choir to new heights of renown. More than 20 recordings ranging from Renaissance polyphony (English, Italian, Iberian, even Mexican) to Widor and Vierne, Frank Martin and Ildebrando Pizzetti have won accolades. But for O'Donnell the Messiaen series is "a direct offshoot of our work in the cathedral. We aim to enhance the liturgy for people who come for services, and we hope that more will come and try it out."

This consciousness of Westminster Cathedral as far more than a concert hall is something with which Messiaen would have empathised. As O'Donnell puts it: "First, it is a living Roman Catholic church. You go in and you're hit by the atmosphere: you can literally smell the last service. Messiaen's music is absolutely saturated with Catholic theology. Secondly, the architecture is very plain — huge arches, stark lines, very simple, almost post-industrial — which seems to echo the style of the music, certainly in the case of a work like *Apparition de L'Eglise Eternelle*, so utterly simple, almost monolithic."

And then there is the organ itself: the magnificent Grand Organ by Henry Willis III, recently rebuilt. French-influenced, with an immense range of colour, it occupies a prominent position high above the entrance at the west end.

Weir, who has been closely associated with the music of Messiaen throughout her career, observes that this particular organ is well suited to this repertoire. "It has enormous power, and Messiaen loved power. He loved big American organs and was envious of instruments with lots of stops. The Westminster Cathedral organ has a large dynamic range with all kinds of stops, including excellent reeds that help to create that overwhelming quality of emotion and drama he wanted.

"The size and acoustics of the cathedral also generate the ideal resonance and colour. Many people think that a bathroom acoustic is what is needed. But no: Messiaen wanted clarity. His wish to express his ideas clearly is very French."

One intriguing aspect of the series is the inclusion of a premiere: a small piece called *Monodie*, brought to light by the Messiaen scholar Christopher Dingle. "It's a single line, but requiring both hands, consisting of 17 bars which will take about three to four minutes to play. The score doesn't indicate for what purpose it was written, but there is no scriptural heading, so it is an abstract piece, which is a rarity. I suspect it was written as a sight-reading test."

Born in 1908, Messiaen died in 1992; his life thus straddled the century. Weir feels that his music speaks more directly to people at the close of the millennium than ever before. "Look at the enthusiasm for plainsong, the candles burnt for Princess Diana. They seem to represent a need for the numinous. Messiaen's music expresses all this: he sums up the century."

● The Celestial Banquet *is on Tuesdays at 7.30pm (pre-concert talks 6.30pm, except May 26) at Westminster Cathedral from May 12 to June 16 (0171-798 9057).*

Voices of the future

National Opera Studio
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Just as the National Opera Studio was about to stage its annual showcase of operatic scenes and talent, it heard the news that it had been awarded a National Lottery development grant to move at last from the woefully inadequate accommodation it has endured for 20 years at Morley College to a spacious building in Euston. All that remains is the go-ahead for a final stage grant — and £600,000 in donations to top it up.

This year's show was understandably buoyant. It will have left prospective donors in no doubt as to the excellence of the Studio's all-round training work as a bridge between the studies and professional life of so many young opera singers. Stephen Medcalf's production and Francis O'Connor's single tilted square of a set provided a unifying and graphically eloquent space in which the young singers could move fluently.

The real point of the show, though, is the singers. Half Italian and half Irish, the mezzo-soprano Antonia Sotgiu rose to her "heure de la vengeance" as Saint-Saëns's Dalila, hurling out her words of resolution from the deep recesses of her chest voice. Panajotis Iconomou's dual incarnation as *Don Carlo*'s King Philip and Gounod's Mephistopheles showed a comparable versatility.

Of the year's two tenors, Peter Auty (Rodolfo and Werther) had the power, and Peter Wedd (Faust and Tamino) the expressive glory. But the performances which really gripped me came from Amanda Boyd's keen-eared soprano (Euridice and Papagena) and from the South African Katherine Henderson's burnished mezzo-soprano in her deeply moving Gluck *Orfeo*.

HILARY FINCH

Executive powers

Barenboim cycle
Festival Hall

The second concert in Daniel Barenboim's Beethoven cycle with the Berlin Staatskapelle was a business-class affair. A mobile phone fractured the opening of the Fourth Piano Concerto: eight o'clock was marked with the obligatory bleeps; someone hurried out before the Fifth Symphony ended.

The press of time and people found a parallel in the performances of the ultimate executive himself. The fact that Barenboim plays and conducts all these works simultaneously no longer seems extraordinary since his prodigious gifts are so familiar. But it is. The stylish economy of his conducting technique is compelling, and his famous energy and authority were in no doubt. But once at the piano, they dominated at the expense of poise.

From his unfocused opening onwards the performance came across as distracted. Some liquid phrases and the artfully shaped ending to the slow movement showed Barenboim's pianism at his best, but too often we were given a perfunctory delivery.

There was more to enjoy in the First and Fifth symphonies. A sense of extreme pressure hung over the Fifth, established in the headlong approach to the opening and continued in an overbearing Andante. The high point was the arresting transition from third to fourth movement, here made magnificent by swollen ranks of gutsy strings. This is just the sort of playing the Gardiners of this world have been fighting against. To London ears, it does sound old-fashioned. Yet it's a style with its own unquestionable authenticity, and one that the audience responded to wholeheartedly.

HELEN WALLACE

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media times


BBC

I say, Sir Humphrey . . . whispered asides in television's *Yes, Minister* may be not so far from the reality of Whitehall corridors as the TV companies seek political influence

Oh yes, minister, ITV knows just how to bend your ear

As television recruits its latest high-flyer from politics, **Nick Robinson** reports on the world of the Whitehall lobbyist

When Tim Allen resigned as the Prime Minister's deputy press secretary last month to take up the post of BSkyB's new Director of Corporate Communications, he was just the latest in a long line of young politicians who have been snapped up by savvy television companies.

But why has BSkyB created a new post said to pay between £80,000 and £100,000 a year for someone who is just 28, has no business experience and barely any in television either?

The glib answer is that BSkyB is buying access to Tony Blair — but the truth is that it has realised, rather late, the value of having someone who knows his way round Whitehall, Westminster and Brussels.

Granada has a man from the former Department of National Heritage. Carlton Communications a man from the Treasury; British Digital Broadcasting a man from No 10 during the Major years (as does the BBC, which also employs Gordon Brown's former adviser); and Channel 4 has Lord Owen's one-time spin-doctor on its books.

Whether called director of corporate communications or head of corporate affairs, these positions share a common role — to sell their companies to the people who ultimately control their survival. Not viewers or customers, but civil servants, ministers and regulators.

"There are few industries where your bottom line, or ability to grow, is so dependent on the actions of government or regulators," says Chris Hopson, Granada's director of corporate affairs and one-time adviser to Britain's first "minister of fun", David Mellor. He is echoing the observation once made by Greg Dyke, now chairman and chief executive of Pierson Television, that in our rapidly changing media environment, television companies always want something from the Government.

Top of the ITV wish-list in recent years was a change in the rules of ITV ownership, which prevented company takeovers. Two of the new breed of politicians-turned-TV-executives masterminded the lobbying which helped to bring about that change. Granada's Chris Hopson worked alongside David Cameron, of Carlton Communications, who was the adviser to Norman Lamont. The two rule changes they urged doubled the size of their television businesses. No new products were launched, and no new viewers wooed. All that changed was the legislation.

"People sometimes imagine that what we do is have a long lunch with our old chum the minister, who returns to his department with rosy-red cheeks and announces: 'Right, we're changing the Broadcasting Act'," says Hopson. "But you have to win an intellectual argument."

It is an argument not just with one minister, but with many civil servants, ministers and regulators. Even when the Department of National Heritage had backed ITV consolidation, the Scottish and Welsh Offices and the broadcasting regulators had to be persuaded that ITV's regional character was not under threat. At the same time, the corporate affairs men were working to convince the DTI that the success of important UK companies depended on the change.

Channel 4 took on Sue Robertson — the former press secretary to David Owen — to mastermind its campaign against a funding formula which this year alone will cost £90 million, just a little short of a third of the channel's programme budget. She says she was hired "not to lunch old chums", but "to develop a strategy which identified key supporters and kept them informed, while focusing efforts to persuade the key players".

The BBC's Policy and Planning Unit (which outsiders call the corporation's "real corporate affairs department") has helped to win battles over the future of the licence fee, the survival of the Board of Governors and the whole of the BBC's controversial commercial strategy. Gordon Brown's former adviser, Ed Richards, and the deputy head of John Major's policy unit, Dominic Morris, have played a significant role.

When Tim Allen takes up his post at BSkyB in June it will be like old times. His rival at British Digital Broadcasting will be George Bridges, John Major's former deputy political adviser. The future of digital television is, Bridges says, "littered with *government or regulatory decisions*", such as when to switch off analogue TV, sports rights and so on.

Having been on the inside "gives me a knowledge of how and when decisions are made and where Whitehall's pressure points are", Allen says. And by that he doesn't mean knowledge you could find in any political textbook. An industry's fate can, he recalls, be determined late at night on the way back from a long trip by a weary minister reading a badly drafted proposal. So, it is worth finding out how that minister likes his or her proposals written.

That is not what BSkyB — or Tim Allen — say he has been hired to do; he is said to be wanted for his skills with the press as the company already has a director of regulatory affairs (who is, it's fair to say, much respected in the industry). Yet it would be surprising if all that knowledge about who counts in Whitehall and how they think were to be put to waste. After all, you have to sell an awful lot of satellite dishes to justify a salary of more than £80,000.

● The author is *a BBC political correspondent currently presenting* Late Night Live *on Radio 5 Live*

The dignity of a fallen editor



Brian MacArthur
PAPER ROUND

Among fellow journalists, there has been universal admiration for the dignity with which Richard Addis has met his sudden removal from the chair of *The Express* after being Editor for nearly two-and-a-half years. His treatment, as one former senior Beaverbrook man put it, exemplified the new brutality of Fleet Street.

At the age of 41, a remarkably candid Addis is left reflecting without rancour on the perils — and the pleasures — of editorship. He doesn't blame the Labour peer Lord Hollick, the chief executive of United News and Media, for removing him. He realised that at some stage Hollick would have to bring in the cavalry, he says. His role was to be the Neil Kinnock of Hollick's *Express*, with his successor Rosie Boycott, as she moves from *The Independent*, becoming the Tony Blair. The size of her task is daunting (see graphic).

Addis's job was to steer a diehard Tory paper towards Tony Blair without alienating its traditional readership. That was one of his successes. Another, no mean achievement against the power of the *Daily Mail*, was to hold sales. Sales of *The Express* slipped by only 57,000 during his editorship, and stood at 1,208,000 in January.

Once fired, editors are stale news. Yet they do one of the most exciting, challenging and fulfilling, albeit dangerous, of jobs. Unless they have been through the journalistic mill, new editors rarely appreciate quite how powerful they are. All the best newspapers march to the editor's drum and Addis reflects now that, if he had his opportunity again, he would be less cautious and move more quickly.

So his experience, and the experience of Robert Satchwell — who announced last week that he was giving up the editorship of the *Cambridge Evening News* — throw light on a job that is as stressful as being a Premiership manager. It is a job with an "incredible excitement" and a sense of "creative potential", says Addis.

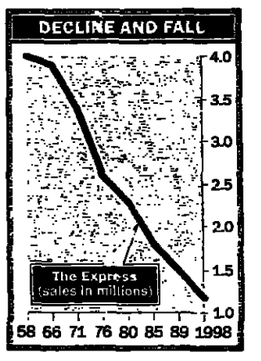
New editors can hire their own gang (which usually means firing another gang, as his executives are now discovering), redesign their paper and determine what it looks like, and decide every day what is published on every page. It is like conducting the biggest orchestra in the world, says Addis, who had 450 staff. His main innovations were a unique, seven-day, pull-out *Sport* section (due to be killed next Tuesday), a glossy Saturday magazine, and a seven-day newspaper in which the Sunday paper had only a minimal dedicated staff (which in my opinion never works, but cuts costs).

An *Express* editor must satisfy three constituencies, Addis adds. They are the readers, the staff (who will not follow a duff editor) and the bosses, many of whom want to cut costs and make big profits. So an editor must be businessman, management expert and marketing genius, as well as a good journalist.

At Cambridge, the pressures on Robert Satchwell, who is this year's president of the Guild of Editors, are different. Readers figure much more prominently because they live next door, eat in the same restaurants and drink in the same pubs. If he misjudges a story, the feedback is instantaneous.

With a daily sale of 43,000, in an era where the sense of community that makes local newspapers "must" reads is slowly disappearing, Satchwell also has to fight for every single reader. That's why the *Evening News* has its own Website, updated every night — and why the job of reporters is being redefined.

A regional editor used to be able to think that he was doing his job if his paper covered all the good local stories, says Satchwell. That is no longer enough. The crime reporter must ask what he has done to help to reduce the fear of crime in the community, the health correspondent what she has done to get a better health service. Every reporter must ask what they have done to help to sell more papers. Reporters must be the catalysts for change and the spokesmen for their region.



That approach, for Satchwell, has meant ending the exploitation of town v gown stories in Cambridge, but promoting through his newspaper an image of Cambridge as a university city at the heart of Europe's IT revolution — the Seattle of Europe. His reward has been a sale that has held steady for 13 years.

One was a big fish in a big pond, the other a big fish in a small pond, but I suspect that Satchwell got the greatest satisfaction from his job.

Whiff of vengeance in Carlton drug investigation

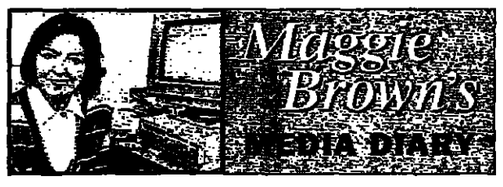
■ TIMING is everything. *The Guardian*'s painstaking nine-month investigation into the allegedly faked *Connection* drug-smuggling ITV documentary could not have hit the producers, Carlton Television, at a worse point. Tenders close today for a prestigious new hour-long weekly current affairs programme, which may replace *World in Action*. Carlton is pitching against Granada — makers of *World in Action*. Some top TV executives think an outfit with a more established journalistic track record than Carlton would have smelt a rat.

They also detect a whiff of revenge, the roots of which lie in Granada's investigative tradition. Laurie Flynn and Michael Sean Gillard (son of *The Observer*'s Michael Gillard) worked for *World in Action*. They approached *The Guardian* with the story after failing to get backing to make a programme exposing *Connection* — including from documentary producer Roger Bolton.

The recently ousted editor of *World in Action*, Steve Boulton, was given a commentary slot in *The Guardian* to declare: "If allegations like these had been made against a film I'd made, I would be in a cold sweat."

The Royal Television Society may strip the programme — made at the huge cost of £220,000 — of awards if the Independent Television Commission's investigation supports the doubts, the first time it will have happened.


Still thinking: Marr



■ JOURNALISTS on *The Independent* tell me they increasingly feel trapped in a black comic novel, with each turn more extraordinary. But the latest news has left even them gasping "you couldn't make it up". Andrew Marr has been invited to join *The Express* as a columnist by Rosie Boycott, the former *Independent* Editor she couldn't share power with. He's considering it seriously, although not made a decision yet. Some feel his natural home is *The Sunday Times*, but he has always said he won't take the Murdoch shilling. Word also has it that Marr would have quite liked to edit the *New Statesman*, but his final ejection from the muddled *Indy* last Friday came after Peter Wilby — "rather old Labour", whisper the critics — was confirmed in the succession to Ian Hargreaves, another ex-*Indy* Editor. One of the few very senior *Indy* journalists left tells me that Tony O'Reilly's team, led by Brendan Hopkins, has got off to a terrible start, demonstrating they have no grasp of how brutal the British national newspaper market is — quite different from the gentler newspaper markets of South Africa, New Zealand and Ireland they're used to.

■ WHEN *The Independent* launched, my desk was next to the all-male sports department, where the undeniably sharp if rough diamond Simon Kelner, now installed as Editor of *The Independent*, reigned as deputy sports editor. My chief memory was of the ritual observed by his department each lunchtime. A scout would be sent to see what was on the canteen menu. These were high-minded, fibre-filled days, and back he would come with the news: "It's quiche and salad again." Kelner would lead the cry: "Down the chippie," and out they would roar.

■ DAVID AARONOVITCH, the *Independent on Sunday* television critic, is wisely building up his broadcasting career at the BBC. Perhaps that's why he felt confident to pen last Sunday's review, or was it a suicide note? Commenting on Ruby Wax's ill-starred interview with O.J. Simpson, he said: "At this rate, pretty soon we'll have the editor of one of those tabloid 'lifestyle' supplements running *The Independent*, but no, that would be ridiculous."

■ MATTHEW BANNISTER, the Director of BBC Radio who has risen to power on remodelling Radio 1 and driving its share below that of Radio 4, is the subject of a new book, *The Nation's Favourite — The True Adventure of Radio1*, by Simon Garfield. Garfield says he has become a real fan of Bannister and has benefited from a lot of access, though he can't see what's in it for Bannister. Well, those of us with long memories recall that seminal media book of the 1980s *Running The Show*, a history of LWT, commissioned by John Birt, then its director of programmes, which painted him as a wise figure reforming LWT's standing. The battle to succeed Birt as Director-General starts in earnest this autumn, just as the book is published. It will also explain that Bannister learnt lessons from his over-hasty changes at Radio 1 — reflected in the current "soft" relaunch of Radio 4.


Light music: Albert Memorial

■ TO the launch of this year's Proms where I catch wind of a startling new BBC initiative. Its brand marketing department is negotiating with English Heritage to light up the newly-renovated Albert Memorial, across the road from the Albert Hall, with its logo on the Last Night. It is also thinking that a similar BBC light show playing across the dome of the building during future proms seasons might be just the ticket — next year.

Oh for heaven's sake, vicar, can't you smile?

■ CHURCH leaders believe that *Morning Service*, which dates back to the start of ITV and visits churches around the land, would pull in bigger audiences and present a better image of religion if clergy and congregations were better rehearsed.

The oddly-named CRAC (the Central Religious Advisory Committee), currently chaired by the Archbishop of York, the Most Rev David Hope, has held discussions with both ITV and the BBC on worldly subjects such as giving clergy media training, to speak direct to camera. Audiences, sorry, congregations, need to do their bit by singing lustily. *Morning Service* producer Roger Hutchings, formerly producer of the BBC's *Songs of Praise*, says: "*Songs of Praise* is much easier to do. I used to leap around a lot, encouraging people to smile a lot and sing. You can coach people to sing hymns.

"Basically, on *Morning Service* we are dealing with people not accustomed to television, or skilled in talking direct to camera. The music varies a lot, too. The service is sometimes not as smooth, perfect or polished as they'd like. We have attempted to put some training in place offering the clergy help."


Congregations need to be livelier for TV

the times

In control — but not too remote



DES JENSON

Sir Robin Biggam: "People want regulation, but with a fairly light touch, recognising the changes in society"

From the Carlton scandal to the future of News at Ten, Sir Robin Biggam must make some tough decisions. Interview: **Raymond Snoddy**

Sir Robin Biggam's office at the Independent Television Commission is a spartan place, decorated only by black-and-white photographs of commercial television programmes such as Carlton's *Emma* and Granada's *Coronation Street*.

But as he sits at his desk trying to fathom the future of digital television, or how much ITV should pay the Government in future, the ITC chairman has, directly in front of his nose, a picture of Trevor McDonald, ITN's *News at Ten* newsreader. It is a constant reminder, if any is needed, that some time later this spring another small, tricky, politically difficult regulatory issue could drop on his desk — a request from the ITV companies *to move News at Ten, although no formal* application has yet arrived. Under McDonald's gaze, Sir Robin makes it clear that moving the programme is not a foregone conclusion, although the legislation says merely that there should be high-quality national and international news between 6pm and 10.30pm.

"Such a change would have implications for the rest of the schedule and would need to go to some form of public consultation," says Sir Robin. Politicians will inevitably have their say, just as they did in 1993, when a previous attempt to move *News at Ten* was quashed. Apart from news in prime time, the ITC will also look at the diversity of the schedule and whether it is *acceptable to have no significant news on* ITV from 6.30pm until 11pm.

The *News at Ten* issue is just one of a raft of potentially controversial issues that will have to be dealt with in the next few months by Sir Robin, a genial Scot who has worked for ICI, the computer company ICL and BICC, the cable company. He had a few months of fame in the 1980s when he backed an ultimately unsuccessful plan to span the Channel with a mixture of bridge and tunnel. The problems he faces range from subjective issues of programme quality and content to the technical and business complexities of the introduction of 200 channels of *digital television later this year.*

This week the ITC, as required by law, produced its annual review of the UK's commercial broadcasters. The new chairman has been keen to keep staff from becoming surrogate television critics. Instead, Sir Robin is trying to arrive at balanced judgments across the schedule designed to encourage the UK's terrestrial commercial broadcasters to be better, rather than taking a sledgehammer to their failings.

"It's obvious if you look at performance over the past few years, not just last year, *that comedy has been a weak strand in* ITV. It is right that we should comment on that — as a straight competitor to the BBC it is important that in every genre ITV can face up to them," says Sir Robin, who is a fan of the BBC2 quiz *Have I Got News for You*. And so it was that ITV was this week criticised for its failings in comedy and entertainment, but praised for a "welcome increase" in the volume of network documentaries, arts and children's drama called for in the 1996 review.

The sharpest criticism was reserved for Channel 4. "There has been a slight tiredness — perhaps too strong a word — a slight weakening of the innovation," says Sir Robin, whose judgments are submitted to ITC programme officials, led by Sarah Thane, who can call on voluntary consultative committees of viewers round the country to inform her decisions.

the media interview

Not only does the ITC expect more innovation and more "landmark" programmes from the new Channel 4 chief executive, who took over a year ago, but it also expects better compliance with the rules on everything from taste and decency to fairness and undue prominence of commercial products in programmes. "Instinctively, the ITC is not an interfering regulator. We would rather leave it to the industry to sort out, but Channel 4 cannot afford to be careless because it has a cutting-edge remit and that means people are going to be testing the boundaries," Sir Robin says.

The ITC praised the progress made by Carlton Television as a programme maker. But on Wednesday *The Guardian* claimed that a Carlton documentary on Colombian drug trafficking, *The Connection*, was essentially a fake. Carlton is investigating and the matter will end up on Sir Robin's desk before long. Last *month there was controversy when the* ITC took action over the way cable television is sold to the consumer — "unbundling" the large packages of as many as 30 channels that viewers have to pay for, whether they want them all or not. The ITC came down firmly in favour of the consumer, saying bundling restricted and distorted viewer choice.

"We are confident *our proposals will* open up the market and allow retailers to provide viewers with greater freedom of choice," Sir Robin believes.

The next sensitive task has already been pencilled into his diary — ITV companies must decide whether to apply as early as possible for a renewal of their licences and let the ITC determine the sum they should pay to the Government. Eight to ten ITV companies are expected to come forward; *while others — such as Scottish and* Central, which bid only £2,000 in the 1991 franchise auctions — will postpone the fateful day for two more years.

"We will have a model for what the total advertising revenue is expected to be over the next ten years for the television industry as a whole; then we have to determine what share of that will go to cable, satellite and so on, and then come down to ITV licences," says Sir Robin. *"Even within that there might well be* regional variations, so even a simple projection of revenue is complex."

Sir Robin has always said that the special taxes paid by ITV, now £425 million a year, will fall because of the increased competition. At the same time he is trying to bang together the heads of the digital satellite and digital terrestrial operators to ensure "interoperability" between blackbox decoders. In other words, if viewers want to move from digital terrestrial services to digital satellite or vice versa, they should be able to do so without having to buy new equipment.

"We can persuade them to turn up at meetings," says Sir Robin, who is nonetheless cautious about how quickly the digital services will spread. "I don't think it will have a dramatic effect in terms of what viewers actually want. You will still have 18 million people turning to watch *Coronation Street*. I don't think [digital] will revolutionise anything from day one."

The new systems, he adds, will be heavily dependent on new and additional services devoted to home shopping, banking and travel. One thing is certain: there will be even more scope for *regulation of all kinds — to safeguard* fairness and openness, and to ensure basic standards are maintained, especially on terrestrial television, which should continue to account for the lion's share of viewing. "People want regulation, but with a fairly light touch," says Sir Robin.

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'I find beauty in places where you least expect it'

How does Benetton justify the use of handicapped children to sell its products? **Peter Foster** reports

ADRIAN SHERRATT



One of Toscani's new models: he scorns suggestions that his work exploits the handicapped and is calculated to offend

Oliviero Toscani made his name taking photographs of perfect physical specimens for the Italian fashion industry. He worked with some of the world's most glamorous catwalk models, including Claudia Schiffer, until, to the surprise of colleagues, he exchanged high fashion for the lowly business of shooting adverts.

Today he takes pictures of disabled children running through the Bavarian Alps and insists they are more beautiful than Ms Schiffer ever was.



Benetton's peace kiss

Fifteen years ago, after renouncing the glossies, Toscani, the artistic director of Benetton, devoted himself to making the Italian textile company one of the most recognisable brands in the world. He has been responsible for some of the best-known and most controversial advertising images ever produced. His photographs of newborn babies, dying Aids patients, dead soldiers and saluting Nazis have shocked, irritated and outraged to the point where even Toscani's ability to cause offence has become exhausted.

His latest venture took him to a school for handicapped children in the Bavarian Alps. The Institut St Valentin is a flagship of the German state unmatched in Britain: its hundred residents aged from three to 22 enjoy the best facilities that money can buy.

Toscani's reputation for causing controversy preceded him. The school admitted that many parents feared their children were being exploited for Benetton's commercial gain. They were placated by a fellow parent who works for Benetton in Europe and the school's headmaster, Karl-Heinz Basalyk, who argued persuasively that the catalogue provided an opportunity to show disability in a fresh, positive light. He believes the pictures will show that his students *enjoy themselves* just like other children and can perform many of the same activities such as skiing, mountaineering, swimming and woodworking.

As the children preparing for a morning shoot, it was clear that they did not share their parents' concern. They played up mercilessly to an audience of hair stylists, dressers and make-up artists as they gelled the young models' hair and selected the garments they would wear. Toscani hung about the doorway of the classroom, watching the chaos unfold and admiring the elfin grins and photogenic faces: "So innocent," he mused holding out a speculative palm, "that is why we are here, to find beauty in the place you least expect. Stupid people see beauty only in beautiful things, you know."

Toscani spends several months a year roaming round the world in pursuit of unusual subjects for Benetton's clothing catalogues. A big, bearded man, *he turns up in odd* locations with his adoring train of make-up artists, camera assistants, dressers and fixers. For the latest spring collection, he went to Palestine to photograph Jews and Arabs: the cover image of an Arab man kissing a Jewish girl was characteristically provocative.

Toscani scorns any suggestion that his work is gratuitously offensive, calculated to cause maximum outrage to keep Benetton in the headlines. He prefers to see his "art", as he insists on referring to it, as a radical attempt to challenge received notions of beauty and break down the boundaries of coventional advertisers. At the drop of a lens cap he will launch into a tirade of homespun philosophy, attacking the "stupid people", the marketing men, faceless company management and repressed Britons who he believes are incapable of appreciating his original thoughts.

He makes no apology for mixing politics and commerce or the fact that the United Colours of Benetton appear to *see itself as an unofficial wing* of the United Nations. Toscani does not feel he needs to justify his pictures in commercial terms. He belives that his work is more than plain marketing and that boosting Benetton's sales is not his concern.

His criticism of mainstream advertising is that it tries to picture an image of what people cannot be. "How many people can look like Claudia Schiffer? People do not come to look for beauty in people like these children. Perhaps we should be in the Seychelles now with beautiful models. But the more stupid the company, the more expensive the models," he says.

Over lunch, amid yet more sermonising, Toscani compares his relationship with Luciano Benetton, the company's president, to that of Michelangelo and the Pope. He says he is an artist who is using Benetton, a powerful exploitative, multinational company just as Michelangelo *worked for the Roman Catho*lic Church because it offered the biggest billboards to display his work.

It is hard not to be charmed by Toscani, despite all the bluster and incoherent arguments. He is a showman with immense energy, presence and a good deal of charm who succeeded in making Benetton a household brand around the world. No mean achievement even if beneath the grand intent lies little more than a canny, original and largely harmless marketing strategy.

The latest adventure of The Great Toscani and his circus will have its critics. But perhaps, before they dismiss it as another Benetton stunt, they should consider that the catalogue depicts the children of St Valentin as the media rarely dares to show them. Herr Basalyk supports the project, conscious of his school's symbolic location, close to the headquarters of a Nazi regime that, he reminded us, also could not tolerate imperfection.

People who simply won't watch ads

Meg Carter on the digital challenge facing advertisers

The launch of digital broadcasting this autumn poses a challenge for advertisers that few have yet grasped. A report to be published next week gives warning that hundreds of new channels will make viewers more selective — about programmes and commercials.

Western International Media, the company behind the report, *Futurescope*, has monitored the effect on viewers of moving from traditional terrestrial TV to cable and satellite. During February and *March it surveyed* 3,000 people to assess attitudes to different programme genres and types of service and the role advertising might play.

Three distinct viewing groups were identified: those who never, sometimes, and habitually choose to avoid ads.

Some 37 per cent of viewers make regular efforts to miss commercials. 7 per cent more than in 1996. They see 43 per cent of the number of ads watched by "non-avoiders".

"Ad avoiders" tend to be better educated than others in their social group. They earn about 24 per cent more than non-avoiders and are more concerned about quality than the price of brands. Many already have cable and satellite and value programme quality more than do non-avoiders.

"They are fed up with bad or irrelevant advertising, rather than all advertising," says Ivor Hussein, Western's research director. "Unfortunately for advertisers, they are also higher spenders and more brand loyal." Viewers in multi-channel homes learn quickly to dodge commercial messages because they are more selective, he claims. "More channel choice does not mean more viewing but more selective viewing." So what effect will the digital, multi-channel TV environment have?

Western's findings show that there is widespread demand for different, rather than more, TV.

Respondents were willing to pay for particular programmes of special interest but emphasised that they would be resistant to over-commercialisation. Subscription, pay per view, video-on-demand and advertising are all digital concepts they feel comfortable with — but not all at once. Which is mixed news for advertisers.

Relevant and engaging advertising, appropriately positioned, will be well-received. Active ad avoiders, however, will be willing to pay for ad-free services. "There will be many more forms of TV where advertisers must learn to augment their TV exposure," says Mike Smallwood, the chief executive of Western.

He predicts that advertisers will increase their funding of programming, or even begin supplying them. "Up until now TV funding has been dictated by broadcasters. Within months, however, channel capacity will be greatly increased and quality will become the focus. The issue will be, how will quality programming be funded?"

Western plans to use *Futurescope* to develop an "early warning system" for advertisers. This will identify types of programmes and digital TV services attractive to different groups of consumers (including ad avoiders), enabling advertising to be tailored accordingly.

Are you a top pencil?



Stefano Hatfield

■ THE annual British Design & Art Direction awards represent all that that is good and bad about the ad industry. Good, because the big winners this year (Nike, Volkswagen and nursing recruitment) genuinely represent excellence, bad because of adland's obsession with the awards.

Forget whether the advertising works or not, most of the creative people in ad agencies are obsessed with winning a pencil — D&AD's trophy. Winning a silver means you get a yellow pencil, and winning a very rare gold means you collect black. (Don't ask.)

Silver (that is, yellow) pencils become a trading currency in agency creative departments. They are a passport to a pay rise, or more likely a lucrative new job at another pencil-hungry agency.

For those that don't quite make it to silver-pencil level, there's always "the book". That's the D&AD annual featuring — allegedly — the year's best work. I write "allegedly" because "best" is subject to the vagaries of judging.

D&AD is infamous for being the last bastion of esoteric judging, seeing some of the most famous ads of the past decade, such as British Airways' "face" and the original Tango "orangeman", denied the recognition they deserve.

It is also victim to the kind of jaded cynicism that denies work such as last year's Blackcurrant Tango spot a gold. The judges have been around so long they can always prove an advertising idea was written — probably by them — when they were at Budleigh Salterton or Bingley in 1971. Their egos allow them to believe that all bright young creatives pore endlessly over annuals from 25 years ago, desperately seeking ideas to rip off. When an ad punning on Shakespeare to sell paint stripper wins, they write sad letters to *Campaign*, which has its own awards, sarcastically pointing out it was a great idea "when I first had it". They are far more likely to give a gold to sponsorship idents or title sequences — stuff they haven't done, so they allow it to be deemed innovative.

Many outside the creative community despair of D&AD. Some of the best-known and successful ads of the past few years haven't had a look-in. On a relatively trivial level, for example, Pretty Polly, fcuk, Wonderbra and Nissan Micra have won no pencils for their high-profile creator, GGT's Trevor Beattie. It is difficult to believe it is not in part personal.

On a more serious level, because of the opaque judging, largely by creatives for creatives, D&AD's influence has become marginalised beyond that community. This at a time when the D&AD organisation itself is doing excellent work, particularly in the field of training.

The awards lie at the heart of ferocious debates in adland over the provenance of the idea. Ownership means potential award, means possible fame and fortune. Really to understand the creative community's obsessions, bear in mind an old proverb: "Success has many fathers, failure is a bastard."

■ EYEBROWS were raised this week at the news that the Capital Radio Group was to acquire the fledgeling London radio station Xfm in a deal which valued the eight-month-old broadcaster at £15.8 million.

Xfm launched last autumn pledging to provide an "indie" music alternative to chart-orientated mainstream pop commercial stations. Unfortunately, its launch was overshadowed by the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The numbers did not recover. In the first quarter this year its weekly reach slipped to a mere 219,000. Xfm showed a loss of £1.6 million last year. The result is a fire sale to a group it beat to the licence a year ago.

Despite the cynical obvious question "If the business plan does not stack up now, did it stack up when the licence was awarded?" the sale has been well received by the advertising community, which trusts Capital's marketing and programming expertise.

Indie fans should be delighted, too. Capital must make its investment pay, and it is too clever to jeopardise this by simply cloning the existing Capital FM and Capital Gold stations. However, a station cannot survive on Tindersticks and Smashing Pumpkins alone. Expect to hear a little Oasis, Pulp and Blur.

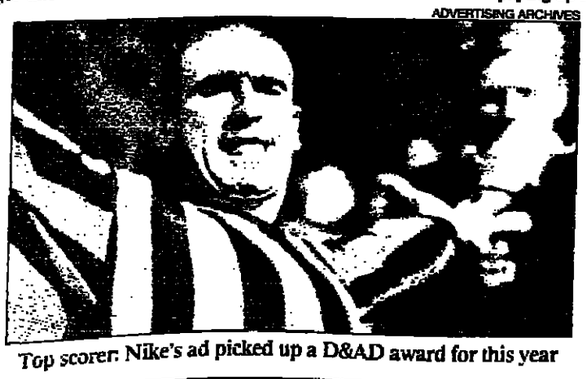
The rules may have been made a mockery of, but you can't blame Capital's clever chief executive, David Mansfield. *He will have to work hard to* make Xfm pay.

■ NEWS that the World Cup may not be quite the revenue bonanza ITV expected. Buying agencies have balked at paying up to £200,000 for a 30-second spot in London, and have pulled their spend forward from June to May.

Inevitably, this has resulted in airtime inflation running 20 per cent up on last May, while June is currently 5 per cent down. But, there is a good deal of brinksmanship going on here. There are still bargains to be had in June — watch the rush if England do well.

● *Stefano Hatfield is the editor of* Campaign

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Airborne division: helicopter journalist Robert Tur, whose pictures of a Los Angeles riot helped to save a man's life, robustly defends the genre

Flying in the face of taste

A suicide broadcast live has inflamed the US news debate, reports **Tunku Varadarajan**

A gruesome suicide broadcast live on Los Angeles television has brought to a head the dispute in America over so-called helicopter journalism. Last week a deeply disturbed man named Daniel V. Jones allegedly unhinged by the callousness of a private health insurance firm which had refused to pay for his treatment, killed himself under the cameras of an aerial armada hovering above him.

To many critics it was helicopter journalism's equivalent of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, with the paparazzi a deeply unsavoury turning point which tarnishes an entire genre.

The helicopters which clustered over Mr Jones's death on the freeway first gathered because the police had closed off the road. In Los Angeles, a blocked freeway is big news.

Although probably few people even remember Mr Jones's name, the images on television were searing: a burning pickup truck, out of which Mr Jones leapt, tearing off his burning trousers, a moment where he contemplated a plunge from the freeway to the rubble below; and, finally, when he shot himself through the head. There then followed in newspapers, on radio talk shows and on television, an impassioned debate on the ethics of the coverage. A few local TV stations were excoriated for interrupting children's cartoons and switching to live pictures of Mr Jones's last moments.

Other local stations, as well as the NBC national network, also ran live pictures — to a storm of public protest.

Many TV stations apologised; NBC, for example, said: "We did not anticipate this man's actions in time to cut away, and we deeply regret that any of our viewers saw this tragedy." A number of stations have promised a seven to ten-second delay in future, whenever a potentially unsavoury live story unravels, to enable them to cut unpalatable scenes. But few observers are taking the apologies or the promises seriously. Professor Bryce Nelson, of the University of Southern California School of Journalism, says: "I wouldn't think this is the proudest day for those who absurdly call themselves helicopter journalists."

Professor Sreenath Sreenivasan, of the Graduate School for Journalism at Columbia University, says: "Helicopter journalism has its roots in urban traffic stories, with aerial observers providing drivers with an account of rush-hour traffic."

With time, the "hacks in choppers" were enlisted by news editors as the most efficient means of reaching stories that required clear, bird's-eye coverage. The genre came of age in 1994, when 95 million Americans tuned in to watch live pictures, filmed by news helicopters, of O.J. Simpson being chased by police cars.

Now the enterprise seems to have gone sour. Peter Herford, a former vice-president at CBS, says: "Technology is giving us the means to take greater risks, but we have not kept pace with the editorial challenge. Every station with live capability must move towards standards above the current chaos. We are capable of setting our own standards, but if we do not, we are inviting the Government to set them for us."

Prof Sreenivasan says: "My concern is not with the technology, or the ability of airborne journalists to film scenes that were previously inaccessible. It is with news judgment. This is not a gadget problem, it is a news problem."

Unsurprisingly, the helicopter journalists have spoken out in defence of their genre. Robert Tur, perhaps the best known, said that credit must go where it is due. He pointed to what many describe as helicopter journalism's finest moment — and his own.

In 1992, at the height of the Los Angeles riots, he filmed a lorry driver, Reginald Denny, being beaten almost to death by a mob.

His pictures, broadcast live, caused a group of good and brave Samaritans to rush to the scene and pull Mr Denny to safety. Tur's helicopter pictures saved his life, just as surely as last week's inglorious footage recorded the hapless Mr Jones's death.

Off the Boyle on a Saturday morning



Raymond Snoddy

It has to be admined that civilisation has not collapsed overnight as a result of the changes introduced nearly a month ago at Radio 4. But if you listen carefully, you can hear a buzz of discontent from loyal listeners not amused that favourite programmes have disappeared, that others have gone to a nether world of inappropriate scheduling, and some of the new programmes are not exactly setting the world ablaze.

Evidence? Completely personal and anecdotal at this stage. There may well be hordes of people who think the changes are wonderful and are flocking to Radio 4 in droves. It may not be possible to get firm figures at the moment, but at least the benchmarks are in place.

The official Rajar listenership figures for the first quarter ended just before the Radio 4 changes were implemented, so it will be able to make comparisons only with subsequent quarters. The benchmark numbers are that 8.1 million people tune into Radio 4 in any one week, listening for an average of 1.8 hours and account for 10.4 per cent of total listening — a higher proportion than Radio 1. There is no doubt that ratings are increasingly important for keeping the score and justifying funding in the competitive broadcasting environment. It is doubly true here, because in drawing up his plans for the future, James Boyle, the Radio 4 Controller, justified his changes in terms of reversing a gentle downward trend by introducing new listeners to a uniquely varied speech network. If it is shown that he has done the opposite and nudged Radio 4 into accelerating ratings decline, then he will have failed in his own terms.

After all, as a unique institution — not too strong a phrase — Radio 4, unlike Radio 1, did not have to differentiate itself from direct commercial rivals. There is none which comes even close to demonstrating Radio 4's diversity, quality and ambition. So far, unofficial audience tracking studies of radio listenership apparently show very little going on. The same slow, gentle decline is continuing as if nothing had happened.

That could, of course, disguise inner turmoil, with old listeners switching off and being replaced by new, younger ones. Experienced radio hands say that response to changing schedules is not an overnight phenomenon. It seems that listeners sample new things over a period before deciding whether a programme is for them or not. Rajar listening figures for the second quarter should, however, make interesting reading. As for this hitherto loyal Radio 4 devotee, the thumb is moving down. As a chaotic listener to radio, rather than a radio critic, often snatching valuable fragments of programmes in the car on the way to the railway station, I now have little doubt that my Radio 4 listening has been both impoverished and diminished.

As a non-religious non-farmer, I was still interested in hearing what farmers and the God squad were up to. The farmers are awake too early for me in the new schedules, and now that the Sunday programme has been replaced by a church service there is a frenetic scramble for the off button.

I almost always heard *Yesterday in Parliament* at home or in the car when it was part of the *Today* programme. I haven't heard it once since the change. It may be weak-minded to avoid turning the dial, or to hit a different button on the car radio, but I don't — and I suspect I am not unique. Sorry fellows. The *Today* programme is still the best guide to what is going on in the world, but the extra half-hour has attenuated the content and now there are more make-weight debates and cosy chats. Saturday morning used to be a Radio 4 treat. But I haven't heard *The Week in Westminster*, or Saturday morning sport, since the changes because I am not there when they are on.

Now Saturday morning listening for me comes to a halt with the arrival of John Peel at 9am. He is a talented broadcaster but his Radio 4 phone-in on what people do on Saturday mornings is not for me. I'm gone, and doubtless miss excellent programmes as a result. That may be irrational but it is also the nature of radio consumption in a multi-channel, multi-media age.

Radio has got to be convenient and user-friendly. Nobody can have a radio station of his own and no radio station can be preserved in aspic.

If James Boyle has discovered a way to arrest decline and attract a new audience for Radio 4 so that it can be passed on virtually intact to a new generation, he deserves nothing but congratulations. But he will have invented the equivalent of a new Boyle's Law of Radio which sets aside all conventional wisdom on the subject.

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Right to refuse treatment to save foetus

St George's Healthcare National Health Service Trust v S

Regina v Collins and Others. Ex parte S

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment May 7]

Even when her own life depended on receiving medical treatment, an adult of sound mind was entitled to refuse it. That right of a pregnant woman was not diminished merely because her decision to exercise it would result in the death of an unborn child

The Mental Health Act 1983 could not be deployed to achieve the detention of an individual against her will merely because her thinking process was unusual, even apparently bizarre and irrational, and contrary to the views of the overwhelming majority of the community at large.

A person detained under the 1983 Act for mental disorder could not be forced into medical procedures unconnected with her mental condition unless her capacity to consent to such treatment was diminished..

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal brought by S. against the decision of Mrs Justice Hogg sitting in chambers in the Family Division on April 26, 1997 to dispense with her consent to treatment in proceedings brought by St George's Healthcare NHS Trust in ex parte proceedings.

The Court of Appeal also granted relief by way of judicial review against (i) Louize Collins, the approved social worker; (ii) Pathfinder Mental Health Services Trust and. (iii) St George's Healthcare NHS Trust.

Section 2 of the 1983 Act provides:

"(2) An application for admission for assessment may be made in respect of a patient on the grounds that — (a) he is suffering from mental disorder of a nature or degree which warrants the detention of the patient in a hospital for assessment (or for assessment followed by medical treatment) for at least a limited period; and (b) he ought to be so detained in the interests of his own health or safety or with a view to the protection of other persons."

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Miss Barbara Hewson for S; Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC and Miss Beverley Lang for the social worker; Mr Philip Havers, QC and Miss Monica Carss-Frisk for the trusts.

LORD JUSTICE JUDGE, delivering the judgment of the court, said that on April 25, 1996, S, a single woman, sought to register as a new patient at a NHS practice in London. She was approximately 36 weeks pregnant but had not sought ante-natal care.

She was diagnosed with pre-eclampsia and advised that she needed urgent attention, bedrest and admission to hospital for an induced delivery. Without that treatment the health and life of both herself and the unborn child were in real danger. She fully understood the potential risks but rejected the advice. She wanted her baby to be born naturally.

She was seen by Louize Collins, a social worker approved under the 1983 Act, and two doctors. They repeated the advice and she refused to accept it.

An application was made under section 2 of the 1983 Act by Ms Collins for her admission to Springfield Hospital for assessment. The doctors signed the necessary written recommendations and S was admitted to the hospital against her will.

Later that day, again against her will, she was transferred to St George's Hospital. In view of her continuing adamant refusal to consent to treatment an application was made ex parte on behalf of the hospital authority to Mrs Justice Hogg who effectively dispensed with S's consent to treatment.

Appropriate medical procedures were carried out and S was delivered of a baby girl by Caesarean section. On April 30 she was returned to Springfield Hospital and on May 2 her detention under section 2 of the Act was terminated.

During the period when she was a patient no specific treatment for mental disorder or mental illness was prescribed.

Virtually every step of the medical and legal procedures between April 25 and May 2 was criticised. Relief was sought both by way of appeal from the decision of Mrs Justice Hogg and judicial review of the decisions that S should be admitted to Springfield Hospital under section 2: her transfer, detention and treatment at St George's Hospital, the application to Mrs Justice Hogg itself, the medical procedures which culminated in the birth and her return to and treatment at Springfield Hospital.

Even when his or her life depended on receiving medical treatment, an adult of sound mind was entitled to refuse it. That reflected the autonomy of each individual and the right of self-determination: see *Airedale NHS Trust v Bland* ([1993] AC 789) and *S v McC; W v W* ([1972] AC 25).

There were occasions where an individual lacked the capacity to make decisions about whether or not to consent to treatment. That might arise when he was unconscious or suffering from mental disability.

That question would have to be examined more closely in due course, but generally, where an adult patient was disabled from giving consent, medical practitioners had to act in his best interests and if appropriate could carry out major invasive surgery without express consent.

Ignoring those occasions when consent might be implied or dispensed with on the ground of incapacity, each woman was entitled to refuse treatment for herself. It did not follow without any further analysis that that entitled her to put at risk the healthy viable foetus which she was carrying.

In the present case, there was no conflict between the interests of the mother and the foetus. Medically the procedures to be adopted to preserve the mother and her unborn child did not involve a preference for one rather than the other.

In their Lordships' judgment, while pregnancy increased the personal responsibilities of a woman it did not diminish her entitlement to decide whether or not to undergo medical treatment.

Although human, and protected by the law in a number of different ways set out in *In re MB (Adult: Medical Treatment)* [1997] 2 FCR 541, an unborn child was not a separate person from its mother. Its need for medical assistance did not prevail over her rights.

She was entitled not to be forced to submit to an invasion of her body against her will, whether her own life or that of her unborn child depended upon it. Her right was not reduced or diminished merely because her decision to exercise it might appear morally repugnant.

The declaration granted in this case involved the removal of the baby from within the body of her mother under physical compulsion. Unless lawfully justified that constituted an infringement of the mother's autonomy.

Of themselves the perceived needs of the foetus did not provide the necessary justification.

The 1983 Act could not deployed to achieve the detention of an individual against her will merely because her thinking process was unusual, even apparently bizarre and irrational, and contrary to the view of the overwhelming majority of the community at large.

A woman detained under the Act for mental disorder could not be forced into medical procedures unconnected with her mental condition unless her capacity to consent to such treatment was diminished.

When she retained her capacity her consent remained an essential prerequisite, and whether she did or not, had to be decided on the basis of the evidence in each individual case.

The application for S's admission was made under section 2 of the Act for which each of the specified grounds in (a) and (b) had to be established. They were cumulative.

Their Lordships were satisfied that the requirements of section 2(2)(b) might well have been fulfilled, the cumulative grounds prescribed in section 2(2)(a) were not established. Therefore the application for admission was unlawful.

However, since careful examination of the documents would have left the authorities at Springfield Hospital with the impression that the application had been duly made, although S's detention was unlawful, section 6(3) of the Act operated to enable the hospital to escape liability for accepting S as a patient.

So far as the detention at St George's Hospital was concerned, it was admitted that the transfer to and period while S was detained there were both unlawful. Although that was due to administrative oversight, the temptation to dismiss it as technical, and therefore insignificant, had to be resisted.

The stark reality was that S would have been entitled to make an application for habeas corpus which would have led to her immediate release. She was therefore wrongly detained throughout the period when she was in St George's Hospital and throughout the operative procedures carried out on her.

The proceedings before Mrs Justice Hogg were so extraordinary and unfortunate that their Lordships felt it appropriate to restate some fairly elementary points about declaratory relief.

Since a declaration ought not to be made on an interim basis, or without adequate investigation of the evidence put forward by either side, it followed that a declaration, especially one affecting an individual's personal autonomy, ought not to be made on an ex parte basis.

In the present case, the judge had made a declaratory order: (i) on an ex parte application in proceedings which had not then been instituted by the issue of a summons; (ii) without S's knowledge or even any attempt to inform her or her solicitor of the application; (iii) without any evidence, oral or by affidavit and (iv) without any provision for S to apply to vary or discharge the order.

The order which permitted the hospital to subject S to invasive surgery was one she was entitled to have set aside.

Finally, the transfer back to Springfield Hospital and subsequent period before the final discharge was based on the original section 2 application and was unlawful.

Solicitors: Leigh Day; Ms Jane Ramsey, Merton; Bevan Ashford, Bristol.

Pleading served when received by fax

Anson v Trump

Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment April 7]

A judgment in default of defence entered pursuant to Order 19, rule 2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court after a defence had been served out of time and without leave was regular, although it was liable to be set aside by the court in the exercise of its discretion.

A pleading was served by fax pursuant to Order 65, rule 5(2B) when the complete document was received by the recipient's fax machine, even though it might not be printed out until later.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing in part the appeal of the defendant, Ivana Trump, against the refusal of Mr Richard Mawrey, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division on December 12, 1996, to set aside a judgment entered in default of defence on November 22, 1996 by the plaintiff, Lady Elizabeth Anson, in an action for breach of contract.

Order 19, rule 2 of the Rules of the Supreme Court provides:

"(1) Where the plaintiff's claim against a defendant is for a liquidated demand only, then, if that defendant fails to serve a defence on the plaintiff, the plaintiff may, after the expiration of the period fixed by or under these rules for service of the defence, enter final judgment against that defendant. . ."

Order 65, rule 5 provides: "(2B) Service by fax may be effected where . . . (b) the party on whom the document is served acts by a solicitor and service is effected by transmission to the business address of such solicitor. . ."

Mr Michael Roberts, who did not appear below, for the defendant; Mr Andrew Burns for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE OTTON said that on November 22, 1996, the plaintiff's solicitors had signed judgment in default. On the same day, and shortly before the default judgment was signed, the defendant's solicitors had faxed a defence to the plaintiff's solicitors.

The first issue was whether a default judgment could be entered where a defence had been served outside the period ordered by the master but prior to the entry of judgment. Was such a judgment regular or could it be set aside as of right?

The commentary to Order 19, rule 2 in *The Supreme Court Practice 1997* said: "If before judgment is entered, the defendant serves a defence, even though it be out of time, judgment in default cannot be entered (*Gill v Woodfin* ((1884) 25 ChD 707, CA); *Gibbings v Strong* ((1884) 26 ChD 66, CA))."

The judge had held that once the time for serving a defence had expired, without a defence being served in that time, and the plaintiff thereafter signed judgment, that judgment was regular, although it was liable to be set aside on application by the defendant.

In his Lordship's judgment, *Gill v Woodfin* and *Gibbings v Strong* had to be considered in the light of the procedural rules then existing, when judgment in default was obtained by a judicial process.

What had been a judicial process had been replaced by an administrative act for a money claim under Order 19, rule 2. Judgment in default was obtained by the plaintiff completing a form, part of which required a declaration that no defence had been filed: see *Practice Direction (Judgment by Default)* ([1979] 1 WLR 851).

Any defence served was undoubtedly served out of time and without leave having been given or applied for. The only conclusion was that it had been served irregularly. Consequently, the judge had been correct when he said, in effect, that the reference to a defence under Order 19, rule 2(1) had to mean a regular defence and could not include an irregular defence.

The judge's analysis of Order 19, rule 2(1) accorded with the wording of the *Practice Direction* in which the plaintiff's solicitor had to certify that the defendant was in default of serving a defence within the time specified by the rules or as extended by order of the court or by the consent of the parties.

The *Practice Direction* did not require a plaintiff's solicitor to certify that the defendant was in default in serving his defence "to date" or "up until now and in so far as I am aware".

That reading of the rule caused no hardship to defendants, as it would be open to them to apply for leave to serve late or to apply to have judgment set aside under the discretion if a plaintiff knew full well there was a defence, albeit an irregular one.

Consequently, the judge had been correct when he said that the judgment was liable to be set aside not as of right but as a matter of discretion by the court.

The second issue concerned the way in which pleadings faxed to the other side were to be treated.

The faxing of the defence into the plaintiff's solicitors' office was completed according to the clock on the defendant's solicitors' fax machine, by 9.42am; the judgment was entered at 10.05am.

The judge had taken the view that in order to make Order 65, rule 5(2B) work, there had to be implied into it a reasonable time which must elapse between the actual arrival in the fax machine and a communication to someone in the office who knew about the matter in question.

The judge had said that a reasonable time might be no more than an hour but that, in the circumstances, the defendant's solicitors had not properly served the defence before judgment in default had been entered.

In his Lordship's judgment, there was no scope within the rules to import a gloss of a reasonable lapse of time. That introduced a subjective element into the rules which was not called for, would undermine them and lead in time to uncertainty. What would be reasonable in a single practitioner's office would be unreasonable in a large city firm and vice versa.

Transmission had to be given a meaning which was consonant with modern communications technology and commercial practice. "Transmission" meant the transmission process from the moment that the document was despatched by the sender to a time when the complete document had been received into the recipient's fax equipment.

That might be a matter of seconds or even nanoseconds, it might be somewhat longer if the recipient's fax machine was busy or the document was long. The fact that it might remain in the fax memory before being printed or read was irrelevant.

Consequently, his Lordship would hold that, in the absence of evidence to the contrary and assuming that the clock on the transmitter's fax machine was accurately set, the defence which consisted of two pages and probably a covering sheet was transmitted and served at about 9.42am.

His Lordship then considered the merits of the defence and concluded that there was an eminently arguable defence to part of the claim and limited leave to defend should be given.

The Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Robert Walker agreed.

Solicitors: McNulty & Co, *Basingstoke; Radcliffes, Westminster.*

Windfall to estate changes disinheritance position

Snapes v Aram and Others

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Judge and Sir John Knox

[Judgment May 1]

Although it had not been unreasonable for a father not to make provision for one of his adult children in his will for lack of sufficient funds, a subsequent windfall to the estate changed the position in the light of its value at the date of the hearing under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependants) Act 1975.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal brought by the fourth to eighth defendants, the four sons and one daughter beneficiaries under the will, against the decision of Judge Rich, QC, at Central London County Court on November 5, 1996 to award the plaintiff, the sister of the beneficiaries, Jean Daphne Snapes, maintenance of £3,000 a year.

Mr Grant Crawford for the defendants; Mr Jeffrey Terry for the plaintiff.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the father made his last will on February 18, 1980. He died on September 7, 1985 aged 87 leaving a widow, three daughters, one the plaintiff, and four sons. The plaintiff was his eldest daughter born on April 25, 1927.

The estate, at the time of the father's death, comprised his house in which he and his wife had lived, money and chattels to a net value of approximately £80,000 and a plot of land, called plot 3.

The land was used for the family business, Hancocks Brothers, carried on at the time of his death by his sons and his daughter, Sally, the fourth to eighth defendants. Hancocks Brothers were granted a formal lease of plot 3 in 1979.

The will specifically devised plot 3 to Hancocks Brothers. Its value for probate was £100,000. The father left his wife the £80,000 and the house.

There was provision in the will that, if his wife predeceased him, the remainder of the estate was to be divided between the plaintiff, his other daughter Joan and his seven grandchildren. He also expressed the wish in the will that if his wife survived him she would make provision in her will for those two daughters and the grandchildren.

Hancocks Brothers was at all times a flourishing business. By contrast the plaintiff's circumstances had always been somewhat precarious. After the death of her father, she issued a caveat but did not proceed to contest the will. Probate was granted in February 1986. She then issued an originating summons in August 1986.

In 1989 there was a dramatic change in the value of plot 3. The brothers had over the years bought land adjacent to plot 3 which adjoined the M40. Tesco bought the land in July 1989 for £13 million.

The price paid for the freehold reversion on plot 3 was agreed to be apportioned correctly at £663,000 net of capital gains tax.

The widow died after the sale to Tesco but before the hearing of the application, and by her will the plaintiff received a legacy of £1,000 and the other daughter Joan £2,000. The plaintiff did not make any application in respect of the mother's estate.

The main issues which arose on the appeal were:

(a) whether the failure of the disposition of the estate to make any provision for a daughter aged 58 at the time of death of the father and 69 at the date of the hearing was such as not to make reasonable financial provision for her and (b) since the judge found that, at the time of the death of the deceased, it was not unreasonable for the will to have made no financial provision for the plaintiff, ought a subsequent windfall to the estate change the position and make the failure to make provision unreasonable given the value of the land at the date of the hearing?

Mr Crawford relied on the decisions of *In re Coventry* ([1980] 1 Ch 461) and *In re Jennnings* ([1994] Ch 286) to support his argument that an adult child did not come within the Act unless he or she was able to establish either a moral claim by the child or a moral obligation by the deceased parent or some other special reason to demonstrate why it was unreasonable that no or no greater provision had been made.

However, her Ladyship did not extract from those decisions the degree of support for the defendants' case that Mr Crawford had submitted. It seemed clear to her Ladyship that the 1975 Act did not require, in an application under section 1(1)(c), that an adult child had in all cases to show moral obligation or other special circumstance.

From the will it was clear that the deceased was well disposed to the plaintiff and recognised that some provision ought, if resources permitted, to be made for her.

That was a factor which it was proper to take into account under section 3(1)(g) and for the court to give such weight as appropriate. The judge was not obliged to find a special circumstance, such as moral obligation and was entitled to look at all the relevant matters as enjoined under section 3.

Mr Crawford's argument that the court ought not to look at the increase of the value of the estate in 1989 or if it did, it should give the windfall little or no weight could not stand in the light of section 3(5). The appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Judge and Sir John Knox delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Blaser Mills Winter Taylors, High Wycombe; Allan Janes, High Wycombe.

Whether 'really' is necessary

Regina v Janjua

Regina v Choudhury

On a charge of murder, when directing the jury as to the degree of bodily harm intended by parties to a joint enterprise, it was for the judge to decide in each case whether it was necessary to use the word "really" before the words "serious bodily harm".

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division (Lord Justice Judge, Mr Justice Curtis and Judge Peter Crawford, QC) so stated on April 30 in dismissing appeals by Nadeem Ahmed Janjua and Mifta Choudhury against their conviction in March 1997 at the Central Criminal Court (Judge Hawkins, QC, and a jury) of murder.

MR JUSTICE CURTIS said that in the light of the weapon used, a knife with a blade at least five and a half inches long, and two of the injuries caused to the victim, there was no question of the jury having been misled into thinking that something less than really serious harm was intended, whether the word "really" was used in the judge's direction or not.

Both convictions were safe.

Scots Law Report May 8 1998 Inner House

Suing over birth after husband's vasectomy

McFarlane v Tayside Health Board

Before Lord Cullen, Lord Justice-Clerk, Lord McCluskey and Lord Allanbridge

[Judgment January 9]

Where a vasectomy was performed upon a man, but his wife nevertheless subsequently became pregnant and gave birth to a healthy and normal child, there was no principle or argument of policy that necessarily excluded liability in damages on the part of the hospital, notwithstanding the facts that the pregnancy and labour were natural processes resulting in a happy outcome and that the value of a child's existence was immeasurable.

The Inner House of the Court of Session so held, allowing a reclaiming motion by Mr and Mrs George McFarlane against a decision of the Lord Ordinary to dismiss their action of reparation against Tayside Health Board.

Mrs Anne Smith, QC and Mr Steven Woolman for the pursuers and reclaimers; Mr Colin Campbell, QC and Miss Shona Haldane for the defenders and respondents.

THE LORD JUSTICE-CLERK said that the pursuers averred that the first pursuer had had a vasectomy at one of the defenders' hospitals, and that during subsequent tests of his sperm there had been an administrative error at the hospital in consequence of which the pursuers had been erroneously advised that they could dispense with contraceptive precautions.

They did so and the second pursuer had subsequently given birth to a daughter. They sought damages in two categories.

The first related to the physical consequences to the second pursuer: her pregnancy and labour. The second to the financial consequences for both pursuers: the second pursuer's alleged need to give up her job, and ailment for the child.

The Lord Ordinary had held that the defenders were not obliged in reparation, because the conception of the child was not an injury to the wife; because pregnancy and labour, although causing discomfort and pain, were natural processes resulting in a happy outcome; and because the financial cost of raising the child was wholly offset by the immeasurable value of the child's existence.

The right to raise an action of damages for a quasi-delict depended on the concurrence of injuria with damnum. Damnum was prejudice suffered in respect of some interest which was recognised by law.

The pursuers contended that two distinct interests of theirs had been adversely affected. The first was her interest in her bodily integrity. The second was the pecuniary interests of both pursuers.

The Lord Ordinary had categorised the question as whether the law allowed damages to be recovered for the birth of a normal, healthy and loved child following upon a normal and uneventful pregnancy.

His Lordship was not persuaded that that was an accurate description of the claims. The pursuers sought damages for the physical and pecuniary consequences brought in train by the second pursuer's pregnancy and childbirth.

In *CES v Superclinics (Australia) Pty Ltd* ((1995) 38 NSW LR 47), Assistant Chief Justice Kirby had said: "It is the economic damage which is the principal unwanted element rather than the birth or existence of the child as such."

Turning to the physical effects of pregnancy and childbirth on the second defender, the complaint was not a complaint against nature but that those natural processes had not been inhibited as they should have been. They had involved effects that were unwanted.

His Lordship did not consider it necessary that they should be categorised as personal injury, any more than the conception itself. The question was whether they were the manifestations of damnum to an interest of the second pursuer which was recognised by law.

There was no sound reason for thinking that there was no such recognition in the law of Scotland: see *Sciuraga v Powell* ((1979) 123 SJ 406); *Allen v Bloomsbury Health Authority* ([1993] 1 All ER 651).

The argument that a claim for ante-natal pain and suffering should be extinguished by the happiness of the post-natal events had been rejected, and in his Lordship's view convincingly, by the Court of Appeal in *Thake v Maurice* ([1986] 1 QB 644).

On the question of the costs of rearing the child, his Lordship was unable to accept the contention that in choosing to keep the child the pursuers had broken the chain of causation. His Lordship was content to accept the reasoning given by Lord Justice Slade in *Emeh v Kensington & Chelsea & Westminster Area Health Authority* ([1985] 1 QB 1012).

It was perhaps unnecessary to point out that in any event the pursuers had a legal obligation to support their children: see section 1 of the Family Law (Scotland) Act 1985 and section 1 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995.

The defenders might be right that a parent would not regard money spent on rearing a child as wasted expenditure, but it remained expenditure to which the pursuers would not otherwise have been put: see *Livingstone v Rawyards Coal Co* ((1880) 7 R 1) per Lord Blackburn.

In considering the argument that the birth, and hence the cost of rearing the child could not be regarded as loss in view of the incalculably great benefit which a child represented, it was important to endeavour to draw a clear line between the application of principle and the imposition of a policy decision as to what the court should entertain as a loss.

At the outset it was unwarranted to assume that a child was a blessing in every case. More fundamentally, the argument was driven by a overriding idea as to what the law should not regard as a loss.

The proposition that the blessing of a child was an overriding benefit was one-sided. It ignored the fact that couples such as the pursuers could and did seek sterilisation and relied on its effectiveness precisely in order to avoid the additional expenditure which the birth of another child would entail.

No doubt if a child was born they would wish to nourish and support it as good parents should, but was there a reason in principle why they should not be entitled to make a claim in respect of the expenditure which the negligence of others had caused them to incur?

In his Lordship's view it was of no consequence to the pursuers' pecuniary claim that they derived benefits of an intangible kind from the existence of their child.

The law had never sought to place a figure on the value which the existence of one person represented to another let alone to set that off against a claim for patrimonial loss.

It was not uncommon to encounter cases in which the occurrence of an accident had brought in train not only loss of earnings for the pursuer but also an incidental improvement in his enjoyment of life, but the latter was not treated as deductible from that loss.

In the result, when the application of legal principle was distinguished from what was treated as axiomatic, the benefits of the child did not provide an answer to the claim for the costs a her upbringing.

Respect for human life should not be allowed to obscure the fact that couples who had decided that they could not afford to raise another child had been left to find a way to do so: see per Mr Justice Peter Pain in *Thake* (at p666).

His Lordship was not convinced that public policy was a proper basis for the decision which the court had to arrive at. The court should follow the arguments of principle for the reasons expressed by Lord Scarman in *McLoughlin v O'Brian* ([1983] 1 AC 410, 430); compare *Emeh* (at pp1021-1022).

It was in any event evident that there were policy considerations on both sides of the argument. Their relative strength was not a question on which it was for the court to reach a judgment.

On any view, his Lordship was not persuaded that there was any overriding consideration of public policy which the awarding of damages to the pursuers would contravene.

Lord McCluskey and Lord Allanbridge delivered concurring opinions.

Law agents: Balfour & Manson; Mr Ranald Macdonald.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

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WATER MEADOW HOLDINGS LIMITED
FORMERLY KNOWN AS:
MAGNET HOME IMPROVEMENTS LIMITED UNTIL 22 AUGUST 1991
STONEBANK PROPERTIES LIMITED UNTIL 13 JUNE 1990
MAGNET HOME IMPROVEMENTS LIMITED UNTIL 30 MARCH 1990
MAGNET PLC UNTIL 14 SEPTEMBER 1989
MAGNET & SOUTHERNS PLC UNTIL 3 AUGUST 1987
MAGNET & SOUTHERN LIMITED UNTIL 31 MARCH 1982

COMPANY NUMBER: 496175
WMH (NO.21) LIMITED
FORMERLY KNOWN AS:
MAGNET LIMITED UNTIL 7 DECEMBER 1995
MAGNET JOINERY LIMITED UNTIL 14 SEPTEMBER 1989
MAGNET JOINERY & TIMBER LIMITED UNTIL 9 JUNE 1988
ANDERSON (DENTON HOUSE) LIMITED UNTIL 28 SEPTEMBER 1984

COMPANY NUMBER: 515757
WMH (NO.50) LIMITED
FORMERLY KNOWN AS:
MAGNET HOLDINGS LIMITED UNTIL 9 MAY 1995
STONEBANK PROPERTIES LIMITED UNTIL 22 APRIL 1995
MAGNET HOLDINGS LIMITED UNTIL 12 SEPTEMBER 1991
MAGNET JOINERY LIMITED UNTIL 9 JUNE 1988

In Accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Finbarr O'Connell of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP was appointed Liquidator of the above companies by the members and creditors on 20 April 1998 AND pursuant to Rule 11.2 of The Insolvency Rules 1986, NOTICE IS ALSO HEREBY GIVEN that the Last Date for Proving debts against the above named companies, which are being voluntarily wound up, is the 31st day of May 1998, by which date claims must be sent to the undersigned. Finbarr O'Connell of Grant Thornton, Grant Thornton House, Melton Street, Euston Square, London NW1 2EP, the Liquidator of the companies. NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Liquidator intends to declare a dividend from each company within 4 months of the Last Date for Proving and any creditor failing to send full details of sums claimed to be due by the companies by the Last Date for Proving may be excluded from their dividends.

DATED 30 April 1998
FINBARR O'CONNELL Liquidator

NOTE: Please note that this notice does not relate to the company now known and trading as Magnet Limited which is a completely separate entity. Nor does the notice relate to a company now known and trading as Anderson (Denton House) Limited which is a completely separate entity.

PUBLIC NOTICES

UNILEVER N.V.

Dividend on Dutch CF Certificates for ordinary capital issued by N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor.

The Board of Directors of Unilever N.V. announces that in respect of the 1997 financial year a final dividend of Fl.1.49 per ordinary share of Fl.1, - nominal will be available as from 22 May 1998, less 25% dividend tax.

Holders of CF certificates will receive the dividend automatically via the depository office in which their certificates are deposited at close of office hours on 6 May 1998.

Dutch Dividend tax relief is given by certain Tax Conventions concluded by the Netherlands. A resident of a convention country will, generally, be liable to Dutch dividend tax at only 15% provided the appropriate Dutch exemption form is submitted. If the certificates are owned by a UK resident and are effectively connected with a business carried on through a permanent establishment in the Netherlands, Dutch dividend tax at 25% will be deducted and will be allowed as credit against Dutch tax payable on the profits of the establishment. Dutch dividend tax on this dividend is Fl.0.3725 at 25% and Fl.0.2235 at 15%.

UK income tax at the reduced rate of 5% on the gross amount will be deducted from payments made to UK residents instead of at the lower rate of 20%. This represents a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15% for the Dutch dividend tax already withheld. No UK income tax will be deducted from payments to non-UK residents who submit an Inland Revenue Affidavit of non-residence in the UK.

A statement of the procedure for claiming relief from Dutch dividend tax can be obtained at the address below.

N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor, London Transfer Office, Midland Securities Services, Client Delivery, Midland Bank PLC, Mariner House Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA.

6 May 1998.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Mayhew House Scheme for the regulation of the Charity
Reference: KA1/5123/CD(C)
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at COOLE & HADDOCK, (REF: JGL), 14 CARFAX, HORSHAM, WEST SUSSEX RH12 1DE or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting the reference above.

CHY-1161D
Charity Commission
CHARITY FOR THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS REGIMENT
REFERENCE: 210746S/JARC
The Charity Commission have made a Scheme to amend the trusts of this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at 12 GOUGH SQUARE, LONDON, EC3A 3DE, or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference.

LEGAL NOTICES

Sherwin Investments Limited (In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF at 11.00am on 21 May 1998 for the purposes of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Joint Administrative Receivers under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a committee to exercise the functionings conferred on creditors committees by or under the Act. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are entitled to vote if:-
They have delivered to us at 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, no later that 12.00pm on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Rule 3.11 of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
There has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
Dated 1 May 1998
S V Frankley
Joint Administrative Receiver

F THOMPSON SEED & CEREAL CEREAL MACHINERY LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at Mackaren House, Skeene Road, Driffield, East Yorkshire, YO25 7QS, on 19 May 1998 at 10.30am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A J Nichols, of Redman Nichols, Licensed Insolvency Practitioners, Mackaren House, Skeene Road, Driffield, East Yorkshire, YO25 7QS will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated - 27 April 1998
F. THOMPSON, DIRECTOR

The Insolvency Act 1986
E C TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED (In Liquidation)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I, K P Barry, FCA, of Leonard Curtis & Co, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London W2 6LF was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 14th April 1998.
K P Barry, Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICES

THE BACIE RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME
(Notice under Section 27 of the Trustee Act 1925)
To: All Employees and former Employees of the British Association for Commercial and Industrial Education and to any Widows/Widowers, children and other Dependents of such Employees or former Employees.
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If you have not already received a communication about this and you have, or consider that you may have, a right to benefit under the BACIE Retirement Benefits Scheme, you should contact the Trustees' advisers, Shepherds, in writing and giving details of the circumstances. The contact address is:-
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Kent
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For and behalf of
The Trustees of BACIE
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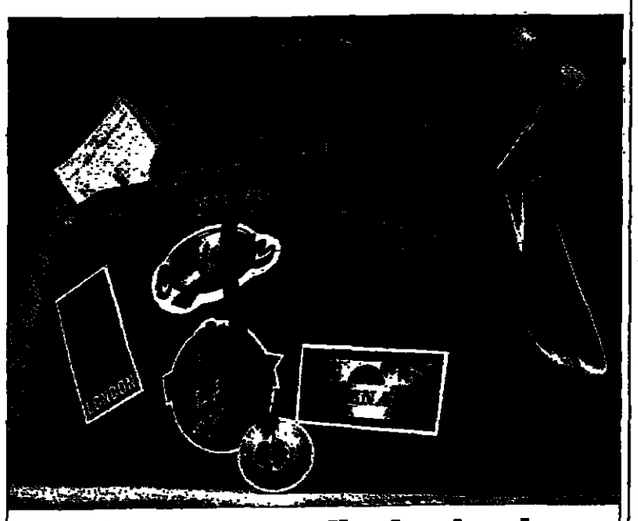
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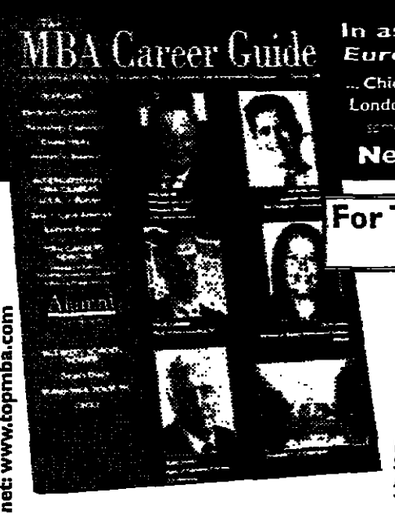
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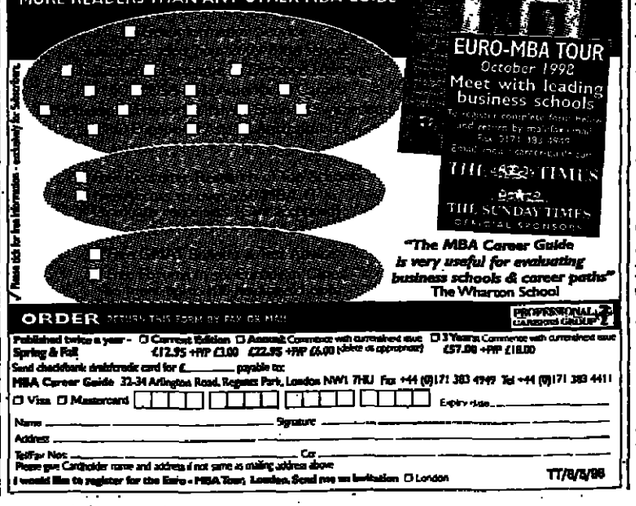
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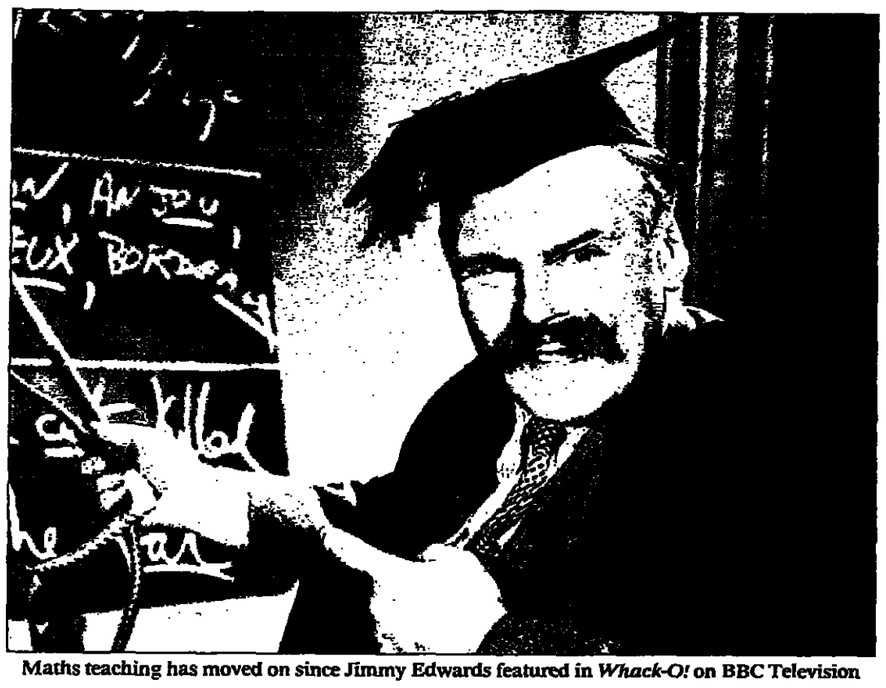
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EDUCATION

Back to the blackboard

Tony Gardiner argues the case for a structured maths curriculum



Maths teaching has moved on since Jimmy Edwards featured in *Whack-O!* on BBC Television

Many of us have thought for some time that there was something unsatisfactory about the way mathematics and English were being taught in our schools. Although we were assured that the new approaches were broader and better, the visible results told a different story.

After years of hesitating to contradict the experts, the previous Government eventually started moves toward a national literacy strategy to try to reinstate good practice. The resulting guidance was published in March.

However, politicians and civil servants were more hesitant about trusting their gut feelings over mathematics. Until relatively recently, senior advisers in the Education Department insisted that we were entering a brave new world in which new technology made old-world skills redundant, and generic skills, such as "problem-solving", would replace specific calculational techniques in children's education.

The climate began to change in 1996. Last year the new Government not only embraced the previous administration's moves on literacy, but set up a task force with a brief to develop a parallel national numeracy strategy. Unfortunately, it restricted the scope by focusing on numeracy up to age 11, rather than seeing this as a by-product of a satisfactory school mathematics curriculum for ages five to 16, and drastically cut the time available for analysis, planning and implementation. This means that the task force report, due in early July, is likely to fudge most of the central issues by recommending a mish-mash of teaching methods rather than specifying which styles are most effective, by failing to highlight the need for all pupils to master standard techniques where these are needed for subsequent work and by compromising on the issue of calculators in primary schools.

The extent of the problem is illustrated by two questions from the 1995 TIMSS, a large and carefully controlled international study. The first example, put to eight-year-olds in 26 countries, avoids old-fashioned calculation, concentrating instead on whether pupils have grasped the basic principle that multiplication is a shorthand for repeated addition.

Addition fact: 4+4+4+4+4=20
Write this addition fact as a multiplication fact: — x — = —.

At this age, English pupils have been in school longer than those of many other countries, yet the success rate was 39 per cent, compared with the international average of 63.2 per cent.

The second example was set for 13-year-olds in more than 40 countries.

A person's heart is beating 72 times a minute. At this rate, about how many times does it beat in one hour?
A 420,000; B 42,000; C 4,200; D 420?

Pupils have to read and extract the necessary information, must know that there are 60 minutes in one hour, that the required answer is roughly equal to 72x60, and that the words "about how many times" mean that it is enough to calculate 70x60. The options more or less tell them that 7x6=42.

Thus all they have to sort out is the fact that 70x60 has two zeros on the end. The problem tests many things that experts assured us would improve as a result of the changes of the past 15 or so years: the need for a written multiplication is bypassed, with pupils being invited to demonstrate their feeling-for-numbers by using a simple estimate; and the multiple choice format avoids tripping up those who do not know that 7x6=42, allowing the problem to test whether pupils understand "place value".

Despite the experts' assurances, only 42 per cent of English 13-year-olds answered correctly, compared with the average international success rate of 61 per cent.

Since 1980, the whole thrust of English school maths teaching has changed. There are several good reasons why changes were needed; for example, to provide a diet suitable for the previously neglected "bottom half" and to address the needs of the rising number of students taking A levels and going to university. Too many of our adjustments have been based on shallow analysis and pious hopes, which does not happen in other countries.

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One key change has been a shift in the way that many English experts think about school maths teaching — a change that is reflected in the wording and assessment of our national curriculum. Where other European countries develop carefully structured and controlled ways of helping pupils to make sense of place value, of arithmetic, problems involving measures, fractions, ratio, and so on, English curriculums require that pupils be given relatively unstructured "opportunities to learn".

Instead of ensuring that pupils learn their tables and use them as the basis of efficient calculation, our teachers are encouraged to believe that trial and error and pupils' private, primitive methods suffice. Rather than specifying the key methods all pupils are expected to master, official criteria consistently refer only to "a range of methods".

Almost alone among European countries, Britain sees calculators as relieving us of the responsibility to develop a robust "mental universe" of numbers inside each pupil's head.

The question is, will the Numeracy Task Force have the vision to ensure that the next generation of children — and employers — get a better deal?

● *Dr Tony Gardiner is the outgoing President of the Mathematical Association and Reader in Mathematics and Mathematics Education at the University of Birmingham.*

David Tytler on a currency problem for a top school

Summer of discontent



High achiever: a student on a summer school exercise with Gordonstoun

James Thomas boarded the flight in Los Angeles bound for Seoul. As he left, the exchange rate for the South Korean won was 438 to the pound. When he arrived 17 hours later, it was 2,200. The experience brought home the volatility of the Far Eastern economies and the contrasting strength of the pound.

Every twitch in the exchange rates has a direct effect on Mr Thomas, once Prince Edward's housemaster at Gordonstoun school in Elgin, Morayshire, now the director of Gordonstoun International Summer School. The world economic situation has meant that many overseas parents now pay nearly double the £2,595 cost of the course compared with two years ago. To fill the 235 places on the two summer courses, Mr Thomas and the deputy director, Jenny Needham, have embarked on a selling campaign. Between them, they have made six trips since Christmas to 23 locations in 15 countries, including the Middle and Far East, America, Europe and North Africa.

It is not just the Far East that is experiencing difficulties. Over the past two years the pound has risen between 30 and 40 per cent against other currencies.

Mr Thomas says: "Normally, the cost of our courses is well within the reach of the parents we seek to attract. Most are professional people, international industrialists and business people. They do not usually have to pay for expensive education at home, and see the summer school as an important affordable part of their children's education."

The ethos of Gordonstoun is reflected in the 24-day International Summer School course, which includes three days and nights sailing off the Shetland Islands in a fleet of six yachts, led by the school's own yacht, *Sea Spirit*. The fleet puts into the deep sea anchorage on the small island of Raasay, where the students spend three days abseiling, canoeing and rock-climbing.

The International Summer School began in 1976 with 18 students, all boys, and has grown steadily. The ratio of staff (130) to students is about one to two. Mr Thomas became director in 1978, and quickly threw the doors open to girls, and began marketing the Gordonstoun theme abroad.

When founded by Kurt Hahn in 1934, Gordonstoun was unique in its blend of academic work, expeditions, outdoor activities and community service; now many schools incorporate its ideas in their own programmes. Several state schools now take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which is based on Gordonstoun principles.

So Gordonstoun and its summer school no longer have the field to themselves. Mr Thomas remains optimistic. "Our programme is unique," he says. "We believe that we are the best, and so do our families."

Gordonstoun's critics say that all the extra activities make it more difficult for pupils to do well in exams. Mr Thomas has no such doubts: "We have shown over and over that the time spent outside the classroom on adventure and other activities improves academic results," he says. "The process works not only for those of average intelligence but also those who are very bright, and have gone on to the 'best universities'."

In addition to the outdoor expedition, the international students are given a taste of art, technology, drama and computing, and offered a wide range of sporting activities. They also have a chance to improve their English. Many English-speaking students opt for a course in English skills with literature, but a three-tier course in English as an additional language is also available. Students are tested to assess whether they should join the basic, intermediate or advanced course. All activities are taught in English and the instructors provide a vocabulary of terms that will be used throughout the course. The rules are strict, and while Mr Thomas has to read the riot act occasionally the ultimate sanction — being sent home — is used perhaps once every two years.

The uphill climb facing the summer school is reflected throughout independent education. The latest annual census published by the Independent Schools Information Service showed a drop of just over 5 per cent in new foreign recruits last year to Britain's independent schools, the first decrease for several years.

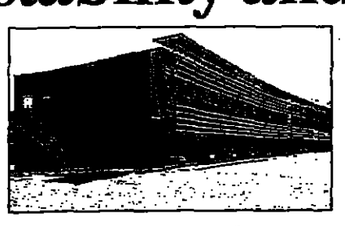
David Woodhead, the national director, says: "The change this year is mainly a reflection of the financial turmoil in the East Asian economies, which has halved the value of some currencies and thus affected the ability of families to send their children to schools and universities in the UK and elsewhere."

Mr Thomas says: "It is becoming more difficult but the signs are that we will meet our target. We are still popular with parents, and former students. We rely heavily on personal contact, and do not advertise."



Some of the youngsters of 60 nationalities at the British School in The Netherlands: below, its handsome new building

Havens of stability and continuity



Arthur Hearnden on continental schools in the British tradition

As mobility of labour in Europe accelerates, families who may move countries three or four times during a son or daughter's education can rely on almost 30 schools that serve as havens of stability and continuity.

When they move, they can be sure that the next school is firmly in the British tradition, follows the national curriculum and is regularly inspected. How better to relieve the anxieties of mothers making nomads of their children as they follow their husbands round Europe, or as their husbands follow them?

The 28 British schools are spread over ten countries in the European Union. There are five in Belgium, Italy and Spain, four in France, three in Germany, two in Norway and others in the Czech Republic, Greece, Luxembourg and Portugal. Between them they have some 12,000 pupils.

The interests they have in common have led the schools to band themselves under an umbrella body, the Council of British Schools in the European Communities (Cobisec). The annual conference, which takes place next week, is modelled on those of the British independent schools associations. Held in London, it makes sure that its members are kept closely in touch with educational developments in Britain.

It is no exaggeration to describe the Cobisec schools as beacons of British culture on the continent of Europe. Their reputation is built on the work of well qualified and dedicated staff and follows the ground rules of enduring scholastic values.

In The Hague, for example, young people of 60 different nationalities are studying for GCSE and A level at the British School in The Netherlands (BSN). The school was founded in 1935 with 20 pupils. Since then, in a city which boasts the headquarters of many multinational companies and agencies, numbers have risen to more than 1,200. Roughly half are British. The rest, whatever their previous upbringing or schooling, quickly shed dependence on their mother tongue. Katy Yuan-Yu Huang, who went to the school from Taiwan unable to speak a word of English, found life "very different from what I was brought up with ... everything is up to you ... no one will pressurise you".

So is the BSN melting pot an attraction for those who seek refuge from their own indigenous systems in the easy-going style of an international community? Not if academic performance is any guide. Results of tests at Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 and GCSE and A-level examinations are on a par with those of the best independent schools and well above the UK average. The proportion of leavers who go on to university or other kinds of higher education is 95 per cent. Katy, with ten GCSEs, five A levels and one AS level is now reading engineering at Keble College, Oxford.

Such results must owe something to the structured atmosphere that we like to think of as typifying the best of British education. It is clearly not just our own expatriates who find it reassuring to see children well turned out in a practical school uniform. Whether they are from Australia or Africa, Finland or France, Israel or Italy, this is one of the ways to give them the feeling of belonging that is the foundation on which a purposeful community spirit is built.

In his eight years as Principal, Michael Cooper, former headmaster of a school in Sussex, has sought to foster just that kind of spirit, not only through disciplined academic work, but in the wider range of activities that parents are likely to look for when choosing a school in Britain. We may take such a rounded view of education for granted, but it has considerable appeal on the Continent where extra-curricular activities are rare.

Among its many interesting features, the stunningly futuristic Ove Arup building which houses the junior part of the BSN has a drama studio in the shape of an egg. From it have hatched accomplished performers for a list of productions with the international flavour that one might expect: plays such as Durrenmatt's *The Visit*, musicals such as *Cabaret* or *Piaf*, in which the school's musical accomplishments can be shown off to good effect. And, of course, there is plenty of Shakespeare.

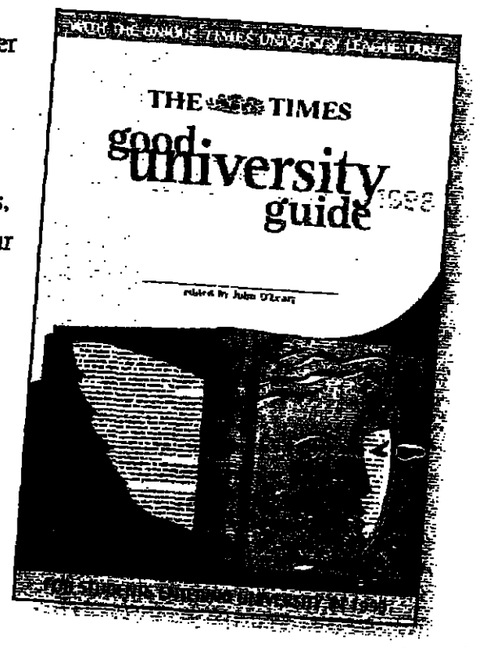
As for sport, the hockey and rugby teams compete weekly in the Dutch national leagues. The mix has certainly caught on with the non-British families in The Hague, as well as the expatriates.

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CHANGING TIMES

Athertons are as one as they seek Commonwealth Games success

Emotional bond that pushes twins to greater heights

BY JOHN GOODBODY

TWINS have a unique emotional bond. In sport, they can encourage and push each other so that both can fulfil their potential, and any rivalry is usually sublimated by affection.

When the identical Atherton brothers represented Britain in the European gymnastics championships in St Petersburg recently, they were equally concerned with each other's performance as with their own. The pair agree that they get more nervous watching each other compete than when they are competing themselves.

The 22-year-old brothers had a particularly tense tournament because Kevin, who was in fifteenth place after the first part of the event, injured himself while warming up for the second. However, his twin, Andrew, though disturbed by the incident, still managed to finish nineteenth in the final individual placings.

Now the pair are looking ahead to the Commonwealth Games in September, when they will be the second pair of British twins likely to be taking part in the event. The others are Tommy and Stuart Yule, both weightlifters. The Athertons were brought up together, live together, train together and compete together. Last year Kevin won the British title and Andrew was fourth.

There are advantages in the bond. Andrew said: "You have company all the time, you are never on your own. You can discuss training with each other, particularly when things go wrong."

Are there many days when things do go wrong? "It happens all the time, but talking to Andrew lifts me up," Kevin said.

Brian Miller, psychologist to the British Olympic Association, said: "Although I have never worked with twins, I believe that they have a complete reliance and fierce loyalty to each other. There is always someone there on whom they can rely. In training they can push and push each other."

The pair took up gymnastics at the age of seven in Wigan, when their delight in tumbling and diving onto the settee and bed at home became channelled into the sport. Kevin said: "As kids, we used to love watching stunt men on television — people jumping off tall buildings and so on. Now we love the movement of gymnastics."

In the national development plan for juniors, Kevin took the title at 12, Andrew at 13, Kevin at 14 and Andrew at 15. After both getting three A levels at 18, they are now part of the 16-strong (ten boys and six girls) elite squad at Lilleshall, funded with National Lottery money.

They are also studying, together of course, for another A level, in human biology. "It helps keep the brain working and, through it, we understand a bit more about our training," Andrew said. The pair seem almost identical physically, although training partners can tell them apart. "Even our grandmother gets us mixed up. Still, as we don't see her that often, that is a fair excuse," Andrew added.

However, according to Martin Reddin, their coach, the pair are totally different in character. "Andrew is similar to Eric, his father. He's extrovert and always has something to say for himself," Reddin said. "He's opinionated in all things, especially in gymnastics. He is focused on what he does. He is not as talented as Kevin but works harder.

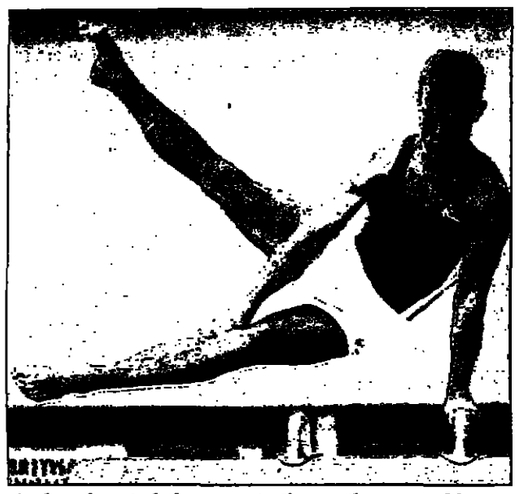
"Kevin is like Audrey, his mother. He is introverted. He's sensitive in all things, but especially in gymnastics. Kevin is very talented naturally. He has the best line of body-shape in British gymnastics. He tends to rely on inspiration more than hard work, which can be a problem."

Is it an advantage for a coach that they are twins? "Sometimes it is a big help — particularly when things are going well," Reddin said. "But when they are going wrong, it can be a hindrance. They close ranks and won't let anyone in. There can also be friction with other team members because they are so close."

PHOTOGRAPHS: ADRIAN SHERRATT



Twin powers: Kevin won the British title last year with Andrew claiming fourth place



Andrew is a study in concentration on the pommel horse

Renshaws a dominant force

PROBABLY the most successful twins in sporting history were William and Ernest Renshaw, who won the Wimbledon men's doubles championship seven times between 1880 and 1889, and on three occasions contested the men's singles final (John Goodbody writes).

However, Dr Richard Pollard, who lectures in statistics and has made a study of sporting twins, believes that two other pairs of brothers could be challenging the status of the Renshaws — Mark and Steve Waugh, the Australian cricketers, and Ronald and Frank de Boer, the Dutch footballers.

Dr Pollard, of the California Polytechnic State University, has researched the success of twins in the Olympic Games. Among the gold-medal winners were Lou and Ed Banach, the American wrestlers, who were both successful in 1984, while Phil and Steve Mahre, of Canada, came first and second in the men's slalom at the 1984 Winter Games. In the 1992 Olympics, different pairs of twins took both the gold and silver medals in the synchronised swimming duet event.

In British sport, famous twins have included: Alec and Eric Bedser in cricket; Henry and Jim Cooper in boxing; Ian and Roger Morgan, who played on the wings at football for Queens Park Rangers; Angela and Susan Tooby, both runners, and Diane and Rosalind Rowe, who won world table tennis doubles' titles in 1951 and 1954.

HOCKEY

Clifton on mission to atone for final woes

BY CATHY HARRIS

WHEN Clifton meet Slough in the EHA Cup final at Milton Keynes on Sunday, the Bristol club will be trying not only to stop the Premiership champions from completing an unprecedented treble of domestic titles. They are also hoping that it will be a case of third time lucky after losing the last two finals on penalty strokes.

It is tough taking on Slough at any stage in the season and although the champions will be missing Karen Brown, Mandy Nicholls and Jane Smith, their three England players, as well as Sarah Kelleher, of Ireland, and Sue MacDonald, the Scot, their squad includes a formidable line-up of past and present internationals.

Tammy Miller, the Clifton captain, has the luxury of knowing that, win or lose, with Slough having qualified for the prestigious European club championship, her club will make its European debut in the Cup Winners' Cup next year. "A cup victory would be great," she said, "and after losing two successive finals, we're pretty relaxed about it all."

Rachel O'Brien, on international duty with Ireland, and Denise Marston-Smith, Clifton's leading goalscorer, who broke her hand in the semi-final, will also be absent. One player who will not be missing, though, is Elaine Basterfield, 37, a Clifton regular since the start of the national league in 1989.

The mother of two young daughters, Basterfield admits that she desperately wants to make up for the disappointment of the past two years.

"When I've retired, I want to be able to say that I achieved something, that I did it," she said. "I'm even tempted to delay my retirement now that we are in Europe."

Miller describes Basterfield as "brilliant", both on and off the pitch. She said: "England stars make it glamorous, but she's one of our unsung heroines. She is always reliable and enthusiastic, and she embodies what club hockey is all about."

RUGBY LEAGUE

Castleford face fight to hold on to Mather

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

CASTLEFORD Tigers are trying to fight off an attempt from Sale, the Allied Dunbar Premiership rugby union club, to sign Barrie-Jon Mather, their centre. Mather, at 6ft 7in the tallest back in either code, is thought to have been offered a 3½-year contract by Sale.

Mather, a Great Britain international who returned to England last year after a spell with Perth Western Reds, will be a free agent when his contract with Castleford expires in December.

"We're very keen to keep him," Richard Wright, the Castleford chief executive, said. "We've been talking to him and we're still hopeful."

Adrian Hadley, the Sale team manager, who played league for Salford and Widnes, said: "We've spoken to Mather, but we've spoken to a lot of players. We're looking at making some signings throughout the summer and we could be in a position to make a couple of announcements next week."

Adam Fogerty, the Warrington Wolves prop forward, has agreed a termination of his 12-month contract after playing just four JJB Super League matches for them.

Fogerty, 29, who won a championship medal with St Helens in 1996, said: "I wasn't happy about one or two things. I have a lot of respect for Darryl van de Velde — I think he is a good coach — and I got on with the lads. But I wasn't happy with the set-up, I wasn't enjoying it."

Hull Sharks will clamp down on bad behaviour at their Boulevard ground after incidents in the game with Bradford on April 26. Graeme Bradley, the Bradford captain, claimed a minority of Hull supporters threw cigarette lighters, bottles and coins and chanted obscene songs.

Michael Appleton, the Hull chief executive, met Maurice Lindsay, the managing director of Super League (Europe), yesterday and said: "It's coming from a small section of supporters, but they will now be removed as soon as the first swear-word comes out."

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5	No Name	G Briddon	3290
6	Hanno Hakkipen 1	L Skidmore	3267
6	Blue Eagles	P Adamson	3267
6	Archi-Sparki	R Bullen	3267
9	Sanjay	P Dear	3261
9	Alphaomega	J Goldsmith	3261
11	Hannah's Spanners	D Scregg	3258
12	Winning Formula	M Bishop	3255
12	Team Coffee Plus	S Parfitt	3255
12	Seagull	R Horwell	3255
12	New Street Racers	R Smith	3255
12	Magic 2	V Clark	3255
12	JT Racing	S Ridyard	3255
12	Head Banger	R Head	3255
12	Clark 1	V Clark	3255
20	Team Thomas	R Finn	3252
21	Full On F1	P Fears	3251
22	O Danny Boys 2	D Hornsby	3244
23	Robber Loose	Z Chandler	3237
24	Silver Bullet	A Bird	3231
24	Cash N Carey 10	R Carey	3231

MAKE THREE SELECTIONS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR GROUPS BELOW

The first column of figures after the names below, shows the Fantasy Formula One race scores for the San Marino Grand Prix. The second column shows the total points in the competition so far

DRIVERS

GROUP A			GROUP B		
01 D Hill	91	321	12 A Wurz	29	411
02 M Schumacher	149	466	13 R Schumacher	111	163
03 D Coulthard	152	562	14 J Trulli	35	204
04 G Fisichella	24	324	15 J Herbert	18	278
05 J Villeneuve	119	414	16 M Salo	113	170
06 O Panis	89	364	17 P Diniz	17	34
07 H-H Frentzen	119	482	18 J Magnussen	5	135
08 E Irvine	128	502	19 T Takagi	42	175
09 M Hakkinen	32	511	20 R Rosset	38	207
10 J Alesi	122	429	21 S Nakano	17	133
11 R Barrichello	0	182	22 E Tuero	127	246

CONSTRUCTORS

GROUP C			GROUP D		
23 Williams	23	72	29 Sauber	11	42
24 Ferrari	25	92	30 Arrows	8	-62
25 Benetton	-20	36	31 Stewart	-20	-26
26 McLaren	20	105	32 Tyrrell	-20	-50
27 Jordan	10	8	33 Minardi	9	-32
28 Prost	-4	-10			

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CHANGING TIMES

RACING RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Chester

Going: good to firm

2.10 (7f 122yd) 1. STAR INVADER (J Reid, 13-2; Our Newmarket Correspondent's nap); 2, Twin Creeks (C Rutter, 16-1); 3, Antarctic Storm (R Winston, 12-1); 4, Nomore Mr Nicaguy (K Fallon, 4-1 fav). ALSO RAN: 9 Albert The Bear, Erupt, Gee Bee Dream (6th), 10 Cantina, 12 Floating Charge (5th), Midyan Queen, 20 Band Of The Run, Elite Hope, I Can't Remember, Silvering, Super Monarch, 25 Braveheart, Desert Lynx, Ursa Major. 18 ran. Nk, sh hd, nk, nk, ½l. M Stoute at Newmarket. Tote: £12.10: £2.90, £3.20, £1.60. DF: £122.10. Trio: £641.70. CSF: £93.26. Tricast: £1,174.00 Cantina finished first and Albert The Bear third, but after after a stewards' inquiry were disqualified.

2.40 (1m 2f 75yd) 1, PROLIX (D Holland, 5-2); 2, Scomed (S Whitworth, Evens fav); 3, Trident (J Reid, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 5-1 Mushrast (4th) 4 ran. 4l, 4l, 21l. B Hills at Lambourn. Tote: £3.30. DF: £2.10. CSF: £5.47.

3.10 (1m 5f 89yd) 1, STRETAREZ (K Darley, 25-1); 2, Pello Sky (Pat Eddery, 10-1); 3, Memorise (K Fallon, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 13-8 fav Redbridge (4th), 5 Riyadian (5th), 6 Further Flight (6th). 6 ran. Nk, ½l, 3l, 8l. Mrs V Williams at Hereford. Tote: £31.30: £5.50, £3.20. DF: £83.10. CSF: £211.70.

3.40 (5f 16yd) 1. WESTCOURT MAGIC (L Charnock, 9-2); 2, Ziggy's Dancer (K Fallon, 9-4 fav); 3, The Way Four (T Quinn, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7-1 Dancethenightaway (4th), 15 Swino, 8 Rudi's Pet (5th), 10 Lago di Varano, 16 Fredrik The Fierce (6th) 8 ran. NR: Superior Premium. Nk, hd, 1½l, 4l, 2l. M W Easterby at Sheriff Hutton. Tote: £5.40; £2.10, £1.10. £1.60. DF: £5.70. Tno: £5.10. CSF: £13.05 Tricast: £60.92.

4.10 (5f 16yd) 1. DAMALIS (K Fallon, 13-8 fav); 2, Kaldasa (J Reid, 9-4); 3, Paula's Joy (T Quinn, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Done And Dusted (5th), 9 Kartsal (4th), 16 Prideaway, 25 Docklands Marc, Rolloster (6th), 33 Brookhead Brandy, Crash Call Lady, 10 ran. NR, 1¼l, 1l, 3½l, ¾l, E Alston at Langton. Tote: £2.80; £1.20, £1.50, £2.00. DF: £2.30. Trio: £10.70. CSF: £5.18.

4.40 (1m 4f 66yd) 1, DOMAPPEL (J Weaver, 12-1); 2, Kinnescash (K Fallon, 6-1); 3, Polar Prospect (K Darley, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Temptress (5th), 6 Night City, 9 Nordic Breeze, 12 Pension Fund, Rebel County, 14 Archdestrous (4th), Tonnere (6th), 25 Wendridge Lad. 11 ran. NR: Indigo Tirna, The Butterwick Kid. Sh hd, 2½l, ¾l, 3½l, nk. Mrs J Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £14.10; £2.90, £2.60, £2.00. DF: £35.20. Tno: £43.00. CSF: £77.19. Tricast: £316.90.

Jackpot: £15,436.20 (part won. Pool of £19,565.79 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).

Placepot: £905.80 Quadpot: £175.70.

Hamilton Park

Going: soft (heavy in places)

2.00 (6f 5yd) 1, KNOTTY HILL (Miss N Cragga, 5-2 fav); 2, Robellion (Miss S Newby-Vincent, 13-2); 3, Stylish Ways (Mrs L Pearce, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Leigh Crofter (5th), 8 Endless Hours (4th), 10 Another Nightmare, Marjorie Rose, 16 Craigie Boy (6th), Mystic Ring, 200 Distant King, Fins Times, Joylut Joy, Rapid Mover. 13 ran. NR: Kildee Lad. Sh hd, 1 1¼l, 2l, hd, 2l. R Craggs at Sedgefield. Tote: £4.60; £1.60, £2.00, £3.90. DF: £21.10. Trio: £21.00. CSF: £17.70.

2.30 (6f 4yd) 1, SERGEANT YORK (G Duffield, 10-1); 2, Ring Of Love (M Fenion, 9-4 fav); 3, Dynamic Dancer (W Supple, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Calico Lady (5th), 9 Temperamental, 7 Beverley Monkey (4th), 12 Sharp Rhythm (5th), 7 ran. 3¼l, 8l, 1¾l, 1¼l, 9l. C Smith at Wellingore. Tote: £22.40; £4.80, £1.30. DF: £43.40. CSF: £31.99.

3.00 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, BREYDON (O Pears, 11-1); 2, Forty Love (J Carroll, 5-1); 3, Shuttlecock (P Fessey, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Lucy Tufty (6th), 4 Foolish Flutter, 7 Wee Christy, 12 Burlesque (4th), 14 Hutchies Lady (5th), 66 Florismart. 9 ran. Sh hd, ½l, 1l, 13l, 1l. P Monteith at Rosewell. Tote: £12.20; £1.90, £1.40. £3.70. DF: £52.00. Tno: £56.40. CSF: £62.29 Tricast: £820.28. No bid

3.30 (1m 1f 36yd) 1, FRENCH CONNECTION (J Carroll, 9-2); 2, Lemon Bridge (A Clark, 3-1); 3, Taquita (R French, Evens fav). ALSO RAN: 4-1 Di Matteo (4th), 200 The Pedaler Roche (5th). 5 ran. ¾l, 9l, 20l, dist. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £5.10; £2.90, £1.90 DF: £9.80. CSF: £16.93.

Southwell

Going: standard

2.20 (1m 4f) 1, Blueprint (D Harrison, 3-1), 2, Long Bond (7-4 fav), 3, Dentardia (6-1) 8 ran 3l, 1l. Lord Huntingdon Tote: £2.50; £1.20, £1.20, £2.10 DF: £3.40. CSF: £8.57 Tricast: £27.82.

2.50 (1m) 1, Killarney Jazz (A McCarthy, 13-8 fav); 2, Spring Beacon (8-1); 3, Sharp Monkey (15-2). 8 ran. 3½l, 5l. N Littmoden. Tote: £1.70, £1.10. £3 30. £1.70. DF: £13.10. CSF: £15 06.

3.20 (7f) 1, Kayo (R Cochrane, 5-1); 2, Komasta (25-1); 3, Sea Ya Maite (10-1). Kass Alhawa 11-4 fav, 14 ran. 2½l, 1¾l T Etherington. Tote: £4.90; £2.40, £16.70, £5 10 DF: £216.30. Trio: not won (pool of £329.69 carried forward to 3.50 Lingfield Park today). CSF: £131.34 Tricast: £1,154.18.

3.50 (5f) 1, Jackie's Baby (T Sprake, 2-1 fav); 2, Pasha (14-1); 3, Emmale (10-1). 11 ran. 5l, 2l. W Turner. Tote: £2.90, £1.90, £4 00, £5 20. DF: £50.90. CSF: £41.28. Tno: £118 00 (part won. Pool of £8 31 carried forward to 3 50 Lingfield Park today).

4.20 (6f) 1, Ice Age (D Biggs, 11-8 fav); 2, Bon Sizzle (7-2); 3, Endasif Sam (14-1) 7 ran NR: Danni, Piccolo Cathlo. ½l, 9l. R Williams. Tote: £2.20; £1.10, £3.00. DF: £9.10. CSF: £7.05. Trio: £36.50 (part won. Pool of £53.61 carried forward to 3 50 Lingfield Park 3.50 today).

4.50 (5f) 1, Pharaoh's Joy (P P Murphy, 14-1); 2, Super Gel (14-1); 3, Pizzicato (5-1) Another Batchworth 9-2 fav. 12 ran. 2½l, 1¾l A Newcombe. Tote: £18.40; £5 50, £8.60, £2.00. DF: £74.50. Tno: £248 90. CSF: £183.08. Tricast: £1,046.46.

Placepot: £121.30. Quadpot: £96.50.

WINCANTON

THUNDERER

5.45 Neat Feat. 6.15 Hillhead. 6.45 Polo Ridge. 7.15 King Torus. 7.45 Jacob's Wife. 8.15 Jimmy's Cross.

Carl Evans: 7.15 King Torus.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

5.45 WHITSBURY NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£2,416: 2m) (18 runners)

1	2B15	MOUNTAIN STORM 36 (D,F,6l) N Henderson 6-11-6	M A Fitzgerald
2	2164	MEAT FEAT 45 (BF,CD,F,S) D Elsworth 7-11-6	P Holley
3	1245	LOMICERA 155 (F) R Alner 6-11-1	R Thornton
4	-0F0	ANOTHER RUMPUS 48 C Morlock 6-10-13	G Hogan
5	00PP	BURFIELD BOY 77 Mrs M Jones 7-10-13	Mr S Durack (3)
6	R3P0	EASTDON GOLD DUST 9 A Hobbs 5-10-13	G Tormey
7	3/	BRIGORO 232 M Campion 6-10-13	B Powell
8	6-60	JUST BAYARD 87 B De Haan 8-10-13	L Aspell (3)
9		KIMMERIDGE G Balding 5-10-13	J Frost
10	-0U0	KING OF SWING 127 V Soane 5-10-13	G Upton
11	F6	MR LEROI 32 P Hedger 5-10-13	M Richards
12	-4P5	NEWS FROM AFAR 20P Mrs S Williams 7-10-13	R Greene
13	3PP	SUKUVUSUN 63 D Sherwood 6-10-13	J A McCarthy
14	0000	THE BARSHINTON FOX 41 R Smith 5-10-13	J Goldstein (5)
15	6-0	CELTIC FIREFLY 45 G L Moore 6-10-8	M Batchelor (5)
16	0-0	CLASSICAL JOKER 57 R Alner 5-10-6	L Cummins (5)
17	4-26	DEEP C DIVA 126 J Old 6-10-6	C Llewellyn
18		KEEP ME STRAIGHT M Pitman 4-10-8	T J Murphy

2-1 Mountain Storm, 5-2 Meat Feat, 5-1 Lomicera, 8-1 Sunsvogun, 10-1 others.

6.15 FONTHILL NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,480: 2m 5f) (14) SKY

1	1PS3	HUM 'N' HAW 53 (B,S) Miss A N-Smith 7-11-10	R Hobson (7)
2	115P	CHEATER 9 (B,D,F) Mrs L Richards 7-11-10	M Richards
3	5223	STEVE FORD 10 (B) C Morlock 5-11-7	Mr S Durack (3)
4	2464	HILLHEAD 43 (F) R Buckler 9-11-1	B Powell
5	4504	NEW LEAF 58 (D) G Sanders 6-11-1	C Llewellyn
6	054-	CAPTAIN WALTER 361 J Old 8-10-13	M A Fitzgerald
7	PP3P	EXELIS 68 (F,S) J King 8-10-10	R Thornton
8	5330	NORDIC SPREE 23 (B,D,S) G L Moore 8-10-8	M Batchelor (5)
9	PUF3	PURBECK CAVALIER 53 (S) R Alner 9-10-5	A Bates (3)
10	PP2P	ST MELLION LEISURE 14 (F) M Hawke 6-10-3	R Greene
11	/4-P	STRAIGHT LACED 15 (D,S) P Clarke 11-10-0	L Cummins (5)
12	P35R	MEGAMARE 74 (F) A Hobbs 8-10-0	T J Murphy
13	2343	LOOMIN 32 K Bailey 9-10-0	Mr Edgar Byrne (7)
14	000P	BOSCO'S TOUCH 18 (G) M Sullenan 7-10-0	P Holley

9-2 Steve Ford, 11-2 Loomin, 7-1 Hum 'N' Haw, Purbeck Cavalier, 8-1 Chester, Hillhead, 10-1 New Leaf, St Mellion Leisure. 12-1 others.

6.45 JAMBOREE HURDLE (£2,780: 2m 6f) (19) SKY

1	-1F4	POLO RIDGE 85 (CD,6) O Sherwood 5-11-7	J A McCarthy
2	5034	THE FULL MONTY 53 (G) C Brooks 6-11-7	M Berry (5)
3	2F1P	MELODY MAID 35 (CD,F,S) N Henderson 6-11-2	DOUBTFUL
4	1343	CASTLE ONEN 84 (G) D Nicholson 6-11-0	R Thornton
5	20-0	FORTUNES FLIGHT 141 J King 5-11-0	L Cummins (5)
6	-036	OVER THE WATER 25 R Alner 6-11-0	Mr S Durack (3)
7	56	POLAR RAMBLER 77 J Old 7-11-0	C Llewellyn
8	0	RUSH 'N' WIN 98 Miss A M Newton-Smith 6-11-0	J Goldstein (5)
9	0/3/	SGT CHILDCRAFT 789P B Millman 8-11-0	D Salter (3)
10	005P	SWISS SILVER 14 P Westmore 5-11-0	S McNeill
11	0PU	THE DANCING SIOUX 15 Miss S Edwards 6-11-0	D Burrows (5)
12	U304	WILLOWS ROULETTE 91 A Hobbs 6-11-0	G Tormey
13	6	HURRICANE HONEY 63 J Fox 6-10-9	L Aspell (3)
14	1C-	PHILDANTE 3359P (G) P Nicholls 7-10-9	T J Murphy
15		SCARLET SPIRIT P Bowes 8-10-9	
16	PP2P	SISTER AU 61P Miss K George 6-10-9	R Massey (3)
17	66-0	SOLAR MOON 15 R Buckler 7-10-9	B Powell
18	2054	SONG OF KENDA 38 (D) B Millman 6-10-9	A Bates (3)
19		CLEAR BREAK F Gray 4-10-3	M Batchelor (5)

7-2 Castle Oven, 4-1 Polo Ridge, 9-2 The Full Monty, 7-1 Over The Water, 8-1 Phildante, 12-1 Polar Rambler, 14-1 others.

7.15 R K HARRISON INSURANCE BROKERS HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: £2,024: 2m 5f) (11) SKY

1	125P	GREAT GUSTO 37 (D,F,6) Miss L Blackford 12-12-7	Miss L Blackford (7)
2	1102	KING TORUS 7P (D,F,6,S) V Dartnall 8-12-7	T Mitchell (5)
3	1422	VITAL SONG 8 (BF,D,F,S) M Dare 11-12-7	G Matthews (7)
4	-114	RAINCHECK 37 (BF,D,F) M Campion 7-12-4	C Gordon (7)
5	1241	CHISM 252P (F,G,S) Miss L Alner 7-12-0	J D Moore (7)
6	PUF1	GOOD KING HENRY 6P (6,S) I Widdicombe 12-12-0	I Widdicombe (7)
7	F332	KING'S COURTIER 13P (F) C L Tizzard 9-12-0	S Stronge (7)
8	64PP	LAVALIGHT 13P (F) J Dufosse 11-12-0	Miss A Goschen (7)
9	6-P3	RAKO CRAZY 20P D Cade 7-12-0	Miss S Vickery (7)
10	112U	SKIP'N'TIME 20P (F,6) R N Miller 6-12-0	M G Miller (7)
11	RP22	FLYING MARIA 23P (G) J S Papworth 7-11-9	C Heard (7)

5-2 King Torus, 4-1 Chism, 9-2 Vital Song, 5-1 Raincheck, 8-1 Skip'N'Time, 12-1 Great Gusto, Flying Maria, 14-1 others.

7.45 CHEDINGTON HANDICAP CHASE (£3,708: 3m 1f 110yd) (11) SKY

1	33F4	ART PRINCE 71 (F,6,S) C Brooks 8-11-10	M Berry (5)
2	2132	SANTELLA BOY 256 (B,BF,F) C Mann 6-11-9	J Magee (3)
3	1122	MUTUAL AGREEMENT 185 (CD,F,6,S) P Nicholls 11-11-7	T J Murphy
4	211-	EL FREDDIE 374 (F,6) J Old 6-11-6	C Llewellyn
5	15-P	MAESTRO PAUL 13 (C,6,S) J Gifford 12-11-2	P Hide
6	-PPP	STRONGBAWER 67 (6,CD,F) C Brooks 8-11-1	S McNeill
7	51P-	SPINNING STEEL 367 (C,F,S) P Rodford 11-11-1	S Burrough
8	PP34	JACOB'S WIFE 14 (G) P R Webber 8-10-13	J A McCarthy
9	2120	TOSKANO 140 (D,F) D Williams 8-10-7	Mr S Durack (3)
10	2613	TRUST DEED 197 (B,CD,F,6) S Knight 10-10-0	D Salter (3)
11	P065	MONKSANDER 67 (D,F,6) P Richens 12-10-0	R Thornton

3-1 Mutual Agreement, 4-1 El Freddie, 5-1 Jacob's Wife, 13-2 Art Prince, 8-1 Santella Boy, Toskano, 10-1 Trust Deed, 12-1 others.

8.15 ROCKBOURNE HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,780: 2m 6f) (21) SKY

1	P6U3	STORM RUN 53 (D,F,6,S) P Nicholls 8-12-0	L Cummins (5)
2	-24U	JIMMY'S CROSS 37 (BF,F,G,S) G Balding 8-11-12	J Frost
3	5156	PRIDE OF KASHMIR 39 (F,S) P Hobbs 5-11-9	G Tormey
4	0-44	RAOUB 24 (V,D,F,S) P Ritchens 7-11-9	R Thornton
5	-541	FREELINE FONTAINE 151 (D) N Henderson 8-11-6	M A Fitzgerald
6	6205	COUNTRY TARQUIN 53 (CD,S) R Hodges 6-11-3	L Aspell (3)
7	-013	PALLADIUM BOY 51 (BF,S) M Pipe 8-11-2	J Lower
8	/20	CASUAL WATER 204 (F,6) A Newcombe 7-11-1	Mr S Durack (3)
9	6010	CIPRIANI QUEEN 32 (F,S) J Gifford 8-11-0	P Hide
10	-PP0	RIVER ROOM 36 (B,D,F,S) C Popham 8-10-13	A Bates (3)
11	0240	ROSSELL ISLAND 151 (BF,6) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-13	B Hogan
12	1005	THE MINDER 25 (G,S) G Edwards 11-10-9	D Salter (3)
13	P5P3	HIGHLAND JACK 13 (G) A Turnell 8-10-9	L Harvey
14	P-U0	LILIRU 51 (F,G,S) C Morlock 10-10-9	T Mortimer (7)
15	-005	FRANKIE MUCK 35 N Tebbutt-Davies 6-10-7	C Llewellyn
16	150-	ROAD TO AU BON 470 (F) R Baker 10-10-4	M Richards
17	2P50	PERSIAN SWORD 44 (G,S) D Nicholson 12-10-3	Mr C R Weaver (7)
18	4584	HIGH SUMMER 25 C Mann 8-10-3	J Magee (3)
19	0098	HAPPY HORSE 15 (D,F,G,S) N Hawke 11-10-1	T J Murphy
20	0P5	GREG'S PROFILES 25 Miss K George 7-10-0	R Massey (3)
21	-0P0	LASTO ADREE 41 (F) G Thorner 7-10-0	B Powell

5-1 Palladium Boy, 6-1 Freeline Fontaine, 7-1 Pride Of Kashmir, 8-1 Storm Run, Jimmy's Cross, 10-1 Cipriani Queen, 12-1 Raoub, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 40 winners from 155 runners, 25.8%; O Sherwood, 10 from 40, 25.0%; J Gifford, 15 from 66, 22.7%; P Nicholls, 33 from 146, 22.6%; K Bailey, 11 from 49, 22.4%; Mrs J Pitman, 14 from 67, 20.9%; D Gandolfo, 6 from 29, 20.7%.

JOCKEYS: L Cummins, 6 winners from 17 rides, 35.3%; A Bates, 3 from 12, 25.0%; O Burrows, 4 from 16, 25.0%; J Lower, 4 from 16, 25.0%; T J Murphy, 8 from 38, 20.5%; P Hide, 8 from 43, 18.6%; C Llewellyn, 5 from 35, 14.3%.

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MAY 8 1998

RACING: STRETAREZ AIMS FOR ASCOT AFTER SURPRISE ORMONDE STAKES VICTORY

Williams rings up 25-1 winner

By Chris McGrath

HER achievements with National Hunt horses have swiftly made it apparent that Venetia Williams is a woman who knows exactly what she is doing. Moreover, she trains Stretarez for a premium rate telephone tipping service — not especially diffident, naturally, about the quality of its information.

After the Ormonde Stakes at Chester yesterday, however, you could have flattened them all by the incautious use of a feather in the winner's enclosure. Judging from the reaction of Miss Williams, the 25-1 offered against Stretarez had been about as generous as the 100-1 on about Ormonde himself, when he won the 1886 Champion Stakes.

She had, in fact, predicted that — if all went well - he would finish not too far behind the fifth of the six runners. "I can't believe it," she said. "He wasn't showing me the sort of work I might have expected. I was just feeling relieved that he was still in touch turning for home, and that he had not dropped right out already."

Stretarez, an import from France, only reached these shores six weeks ago, his intended role being to preserve his new stablemates' remarkable strike-rate over jumps. But Miss Williams, who took out a Flat licence specifically for her new recruit, has evidently revived the Stretarez who beat Grey Shot in a group two race at Longchamp last year.

Racegoers were reminded anew, as he wore down Palio Sky close home, that her years in the service of Michael Dickinson and Martin Pipe were not devoted purely to the polishing of tack. This frog having turned into a prince, at the lightest of her kisses, Stretarez may now be trained for the Gold Cup at Ascot.

In the event, the ignominy anticipated for the winner belonged instead to Further Flight. The grey's immense popularity remains undiminished, however, as the rains had never arrived to preserve his 12-year-old legs. Barry Hills, his trainer, had already enjoyed his customary success at a meeting he has dominated in modern times. Prolix winning him a tenth Capital Bank Dee Stakes. That still leaves 175 runnings unaccounted for, but he has excuses for a few of them.

Though Scorned, the favourite, was the only runner with proven stamina, it fell to Darryll Holland to seize the initiative after his three rivals had trotted nervously through the early stages of the contest. The season's leading jockey never looked like being caught thereafter. "You've got to take the race by the scruff of the neck round here," Hills said. "This has always been a decent horse, but he hasn't had much luck. He ran too free when they went no pace at Doncaster, but for which he might be in the Vodafone Derby — which is not necessarily to say that Prince Khaled [Abdulla, his owner] won't decide to supplement him."

The Zafonic colt would need to last an extra quarter-mile at Epsom, where Hills already has a solid candidate in The Glow-Worm. As it happens, he suspects that Alboostan may possibly be better than either, but he will find out more at Lingfield tomorrow.

Another real Chester specialist is Alan Bailey, the Tarporley trainer who had saddled Silence In Court to land a gamble in the previous day's big race. Another plan appeared to have worked to perfection when Cantina made all in the opening William Hare Wynn Handicap, but the stewards disqualified her, awarding the spoils to Star Invader.

Danny Wright, her rider, and Kevin Darley, who had passed the post third on Albert The Bear, were deemed responsible for the early chaos, so typical of this frantic circuit. Bailey's verdict was succinct. "It's a complete joke," he said.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



The large crowd at Chester yesterday watches Stretarez edge ahead for a 25-1 victory in the Ormonde Stakes

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Bramble Bear
(3.20 Lingfield Park)

With two encouraging performances under his belt this term, Michael Blanshard's well-drawn Bramble Bear is primed to open his account for the season off a favourable handicap mark.

Next best: Gift Token
(4.30 Nottingham)

Guest fined £1,000 and has licence withdrawn

RICHARD GUEST, the National Hunt jockey, had his licence withdrawn and was fined £1,000 by the Jockey Club at an inquiry at Portman Square yesterday. The rider, 32, had been referred to the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee by the Perth stewards under Rule 151, the "non-triers" rule, after having been adjudged to have failed to secure the best possible position on This Is My Life in a selling hurdle on April 23.

Guest had already been penalised twice under the rule. He said at Perth: "That's it. I'm not riding again," and threw his licence on the weighing-room floor. He confirmed that decision yesterday. "I have no intention of race-riding again, although I have been told I can reapply for a licence on August 1."

Guest added: "I expected it, but I am under their rules and they didn't like what I had to say after the incident at Perth — I was told to consider my conduct in the future if I wanted to stay in racing."

The Jockey Club stewards felt that Guest's behaviour towards officials during the initial inquiry at Perth was unacceptable. Guest had suggested that there had been a witch hunt against him.

Yesterday's verdict brings to an end the career of one of the most experienced jockeys in the country. Beech Road, in the 1989 Champion Hurdle, was the most notable of around 500 winners he rode during his 12 years in the saddle.

Guest was joined at the hearing by the horse's trainer Kate Milligan, who was fined £1,000 for "schooling in public". Miss Milligan also had her appeal dismissed and her fine stands. This Is Your Life's 30-day ban also remains.

☐ Paul Carberry was yesterday ruled out of the rest of the jumps season and faces at least a month on the sidelines after breaking a bone in his left leg at Wetherby on Wednesday night.

RAPIDS RACELINE
COMMENTARY
0930 168+
LINGFIELD	101	201
NOTT'HAM	102	202
CARLISLE	103	203
STRATFORD	104	204
WINCANTON	105	205
IRISH	120	220

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.50 Prospectress
2.20 Tallulah Belle
2.50 Desert Darling
3.20 Bramble Bear
3.50 La Modiste
4.20 King Slayer
4.50 Selfish

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.20 RASPBERRY SAUCE.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up U — unseated rider B — brought down S — slipped up R — refused D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers V — visor H — hood E — Eyeshield. C — course winner D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD (TURF COURSE); STANDARD (ALL-WEATHER) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: HIGH NUMBERS BEST UP TO 7F 140YD

1.50 WEATHERBYS DATA SERVICES MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: £3,460: 7f) (11 runners)

101 (10) SHEER WARNING (R Arculli) R Armstrong 4-9-10 .... R Price –
102 (2) 00/40- HEVER GOLF MAGIC 246 (Hever Racing T Naughton 4-9-5 Rachael Moody (7) –
103 (9) 05- BOMB ALASKA 182 (Miss B Swire) G Balding 3-8-12 .... S Drowne 63
104 (1) FLOWN SOUTH (P Winfield) J Dunlop 3-8-12 .... T Sprake –
105 (3) 54- GRAND SLAM 219 (Mrs D Wight) R Hannon 3-8-12 .... R Hughes 84
106 (6) MALTAYAR (H H Aga Khan) L Cumani 3-8-12 .... R Ffrench –
107 (8) 4- SHAJI 182 (H al-Maktoum) C Brittain 3-8-12 .... R Hills 75
108 (5) DAISY FAY (Mrs J Mackenzie) T D Mccarthy 3-8-7 .... S Sanders –
109 (4) 3- PROSPECTRESS 215 (Mrs S Thomas) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-7 Aimee Cook (5) 88
110 (7) 2-4 SPECIAL PERSON 17 (Matthews Breeding and Racing) P Mitchell 3-8-7 A Clark 60
111 (11) 600 ZARIFA 69 (Rare Stakes Partnership) R Flower 3-8-7 .... R Miles (7) –

BETTING: 3-1 Maltayar, 7-2 Prospectress, 4-1 Flown South, 9-2 Grand Slam, 10-1 Bomb Alaska, Shaji, 14-1 Special Person, 16-1 others.

1997: ROCK FALCON 4-9-10 A Clark (33-1) Lady Herries 12 ran

FORM FOCUS Hever Golf Magic 35l last of 17 to Dulcinea in handicap at Salisbury (1m, good to soft). Bomb Alaska 11l 5th of 19 to Scorned in maiden stakes at Doncaster (7f, good). Grand Slam 6¾l 4th of 13 to Courteous in maiden stakes at Salisbury (1m, good). Shaji 2¾l 4th of 21 to Mashaii in maiden stakes at Doncaster (6l, good). Prospectress 2½l 3rd of 11 to Florazi in maiden stakes at Leicester (7f 9yd, good to firm). Special Person 13l 4th of 10 to Ei Ei in maiden apprentice stakes at Folkestone (7l, soft). Zarifa 40l last of 7 to Comeoutofthefog in claiming stakes at Lingfield (1m, slow).

PROSPECTRESS can get off the mark at expense of Shaji

2.20 FOSTERS FILLIES HANDICAP
(All-weather: £2,925: 1m 2f) (8 runners)

201 (2) 1201-20 TALLULAH BELLE 7 (BF,CD,F) (Trojan Racing) N Littmoden 5-10-0 . J Weaver 61
202 (3) -236211 RASPBERRY SAUCE 10 (CD,S) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-9-9 (6ex) .... L Dettori 79
203 (7) 44000-4 SPLASHED 20 (Mrs R Vrasinghe) P Farrell 4-9-3 .... T Sprake 68
204 (8) /30005- OFF THE RAILS 224 (Mrs J Redvers) J Portman 4-9-2 .... A McGlone 59
205 (5) 54030- MISS VITA 189 (Ernente Cordiale) R Williams 4-8-13 .... Martin Dwyer 57
206 (1) 3405-50 PEPPERS 10 (M Helmes-Crocker) K Burke 5-8-12 .... D Sweeney (3) 70
207 (6) 50-0 EILEEN'S LADY 38 (J Guest) G Margarson 4-8-9 .... G Carter –
208 (4) 3520066 FANCY DESIGN 8 (Mrs V Harris) P Mitchell 5-8-1 .... R Ffrench 60

BETTING: 2-1 Tallulah Belle, 5-2 Raspberry Sauce, 13-2 Fancy Design, 7-1 Peppers, 8-1 Off The Rails, 10-1 Splashed, 14-1 Miss Vita, 25-1 Eileen's Lady

1997, MONO LADY 4-9-7 A Clark (10-1) D Haydn Jones 12 ran

FORM FOCUS Tallulah Belle 13l 14th of 24 to Carlys Quest in handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to soft). Raspberry Sauce beat Limelight ¾l in 10-runner fillies handicap at Bath (1m 3l 144yd, soft) with Peppers (13lb better off) 20l 7th. Splashed 6¼l 4th of 10 to Elite Hope in claiming stakes at Wolverhampton (7l, fibresand). Off The Rails 7½l 5th of 9 to Opera Buff in stakes at Folkestone (1m 4l, firm). Miss Vita 29l 21st of 29 to Ordained in fillies handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm). Eileen's Lady 80l 7th of 8 to Indimaaj in maiden stakes at Leicester (1m 3l 183yd, soft). Fancy Design 6½l 6th of 14 to Dancing Lawyer in handicap at Brighton (7f 214yd, good)

RASPBERRY SAUCE, a course and distance winner, should complete a treble

2.50 RACING CHANNEL STEVE WOOD MEMORIAL NOVICE STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,188: 5f) (9 runners)

301 (1) 41 TOUCH UP 35 (D) (Sheet & Roll Convertors Ltd) Miss G Kelleway 9-4 S Sanders 78
302 (4) A LA PERRUCHE (Ivory & Ledoux Ltd) R Curtis 8-12 .... J Lowe –
303 (7) IT'S A POSSIBILITY (Jake Reeves & Matthew Venn) B R Johnson 8-12 A Clark –
304 (6) REPUBLIC (M Pescod) R Hannon 8-12 .... R Hughes –
305 (8) 40 SHABAASH 10 (B Chatwal & Partners) G Lewis 8-12 .... Paul Eddery 50
306 (5) WESTMINSTER CITY (A Richards) C Brittain 8-12 .... J Reid –
307 (3) 023 AEGEAN FLAME 20 (BF) (Theobalds Stud) K Ivory 8-7 .... Martin Dwyer 73
308 (9) DESERT DARLING (Sussex Stud Ltd) J Berry 8-7 .... C Lowther (3) –
309 (2) 20 PALACE GREEN 4 (M Si Dunton) M Channon 8-7 .... A Mackay 85

BETTING: 11-4 Desert Darling, 3-1 Westminster City, 7-2 Touch Up, 13-2 Aegean Flame, 8-1 Republic, Palace Green, 20-1 A La Perruche, Shabaash, 33-1 It's A Possibility

1997, PRINCE FOLEY 9-0 D McGaffin (2-1) W G M Turner 9 ran

FORM FOCUS Touch Up beat Maylar Ballerina 1½l in 4-runner maiden stakes at Lingfield (5f, equitrack). Republic Anita's Prince colt out of a moderate mare. Shabaash 29l last of 13 to Monkston Point in maiden auction stakes at Bath (5f 11yd, soft). Westminster City Alleged colt out of a sprint-winning mare. Aegean Flame 10l 3rd of 5 to Golden Silca in maiden auction stakes at Newbury (5f 34yd, heavy). Desert Darling Green Desert filly out of the top-class sprinter Habibti. Palace Green 11l 8th of 10 to Kastaway in novice stakes at Doncaster (5f, good to firm).

Equitrack winner TOUCH UP can confirm early promise back on turf

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
H Cecil	10	33	30.3	L Dettori	73	316	23.1
L Cumani	6	27	22.2	J Weaver	82	384	21.4
J Gosden	14	65	21.5	R Hills	14	71	19.7
G McCourt	3	14	21.4	R Studholme	7	38	18.4
J Berry	33	160	20.6	R Cochrane	66	383	17.2
Lord Huntingdon	41	217	18.9	D Sweeney	17	100	17.0

3.20 GOLDEN HORSESHOE HANDICAP (£3,236: 5f) (19 runners)

401 (2) 500-050 MANGUS 10 (D,F) (Danebury Racing) K Cunningham-Brown 4-9-13 .... J Reid 70
402 (15) 006320- TEAR WHITE 141 (D,F) (A Lawson & Co Ltd) T Mills 4-9-12 Lisa Hackett (7) 60
403 (12) 00-0133 THE FUGATIVE 8 (BF,D,G,S) (J Redmond) P Mitchell 5-9-9 .... R Ffrench 75
404 (19) 4000-35 BRAMBLE BEAR 10 (D,F,S) (M Hill/H Chaldo) M Blanshard 4-9-9 D Sweeney (3) 61
405 (10) 3232603 HALF TONE 71 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs G Temmerman) R Flower 6-9-4 .... D Urbina 70
406 (3) 1123022 ALJAZ 20 (BF,D,S) (G Wiltshire) Mrs N Macaulay 8-9-2 .... P McCabe (3) 50
407 (5) 52321-0 BOLD FRONTIER 38 (B,D) (K Ivory) K Ivory 6-9-2 .... R Cochrane 51
408 (14) 006000- MINDRACE 215 (D,F) (D Abbott) K Ivory 5-9-0 .... C Scally 70
409 (7) 1-34244 FRIENDLY BRAVE 31 (D,F,S) (Tempus Fugit) Miss G Kelleway 8-9-0 L Dettori 71
410 (18) 420-5 ENGLISH LADY 37 (English Lady Classics Ltd) M Haynes 3-9-0 .... J Weaver 57
411 (13) 4000-66 BARRANAK 14 (CD,F,G) (M MacCarthy) G McCourt 6-8-13 . R Studholme (7) 60
412 (16) 00-0000 RUNS IN THE FAMILY 13 (B,CD,G,S) (C Shankland) G McCourt 6-8-12 C Rutter 65
413 (1) 4233-06 OK JOHN 18 (OK Partnership) J Akehurst 3-8-8 .... A Clark 61
414 (17) 00-5501 JUSTINIANUS 8 (G) (M Pascall) J Bridger 6-8-5 (6ex) .... G Bardwell 71
415 (9) 02060-0 FLYING HAROLD 10 (F) (M Allen) M Channon 5-8-4 .... A Mackay 77
416 (6) 1520215 ROBO MAGIC 29 (C,D,F) (A Green and Partners) L Montague Hall 6-8-4 W Ryan 61
417 (8) 3550-20 BRIGHT PARAGON 18 (BF,CD,F,G,S) (D Cooper) K Ivory 9-8-0 Martin Dwyer 66
418 (4) -000348 CALANDRELLA 3 (M Clemence) G Balding 5-7-10 .... N Varley 56
419 (11) 0000-00 DISTANT DYNASTY 18 (C,D,S) (M Gibbs) B Pearce 8-7-10 .... P Doe (5) 47

Long handicap: Calandrella 7-7, Distant Dynasty 6-6.

BETTING: 7-1 The Fugative, 8-1 Justinianus, Bright Paragon, 10-1 Bramble Bear, Half Tone, Friendly Brave, Robo Magic, Calandrella, 12-1 others.

1997: RUNS IN THE FAMILY 5-8-4 D Harrison (6-1) G McCourt 13 ran

FORM FOCUS Tear White 6¾l 8th of 16 to Alzan in Southwell handicap (5l, fibresand). Half Tone 4¾l 3rd of 5 to Mary Cornwallis in Lingfield handicap (5l, slow). Aljaz ¾l 2nd of 10 to Ivory's Grab Hire in Wolverhampton handicap (5l, fibresand). Bold Frontier 28l 18th of 20 to Ocker in Nottingham handicap (6l, soft). Mindrace 4¼l 7th of 21 to Magic Lake in Leicester handicap (5f 218yd, good to firm). Friendly Brave 8l last of 4 to The Fugative (15lb worse off) in Folkestone stakes (5l, soft). English Lady 8l 5th of 9 to Waff's Folly in Folkestone maiden stakes (6l, good to soft). Barranak 12l 6th of 13 to The Gay Fox in Sandown handicap (5l, heavy). Ok John 11l 6th of 12 to Dande Flyer in Brighton handicap (5l, good) with Runs In The Family (2lb better off) 14l 8th, Bright Paragon (1lb worse off) 16l 9th and Distant Dynasty (5lb worse off) 18l 11th. Justinianus beat Divine Miss-P ¾l in 10-runner Brighton handicap (5l 213yd, good) with The Fugative (4lb better off) 2¾l 3rd. Robo Magic 5¼l 5th of 8 to Juwwi in Lingfield handicap (5l, equitrack). Calandrella, penultimate start, 1¾l 4th of 17 to Dande Flyer in Bath handicap Bath (5l, soft) with Bramble Bear (levels) 2½l 5th, Flying Harold (levels) 9¼l 14th and Mangus (levels) 37l last.

The consistent HALF TONE is preferred to Bramble Bear

3.50 TOTE HANDICAP [SHOWCASE RACE]
(All-weather: £7,570: 1m) (12 runners)

501 (8) 06113-0 PUZZLEMENT 48 (CD) (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 4-9-12 .... Paul Eddery 84
502 (11) 640-450 HEVER GOLF GLORY 48 (D,G) (Hever Racing) T Naughton 4-9-10 R Hughes 98
503 (3) 1265-20 SPACE RACE 20 (BF,D,S) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-9-9 .... J Weaver 96
504 (7) 50061-2 ARTERXERXES 35 (F) (P Lowe & Partners) M Heaton-Ellis 5-9-9 .... A Clark 88
505 (4) /10500- CHINA RED 224 (D,F) (N Browne & Partners) J Hills 4-9-8 .... R Hills 80
506 (10) 1310-00 MR NEVERMIND 69 (CD,F,G) (K Higson) G L Moore 8-9-7 .... W Ryan 75
507 (6) 412-031 SALTY JACK 17 (C,F,S) (Sails Of The Earth-Four Seasons) V Soane 4-9-4 C Rutter 85
508 (12) 1/6000- ZIMIRI 238 (CD) (Rennerdale, D & N Fraser) J Toller 4-9-3 .... S Sanders 67
509 (1) 22130-0 LA MODISTE 41 (C,D,F,S) (Winning Line) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-3 .. G Carter 72
510 (2) 0035114 DIGPAST 8 (B,CD,G) (Miss S Jones) J Bridger 8-9-2 .... G Bardwell 61
511 (5) 0-30131 PHILISTAR 35 (C,D,F,G) (N Shields) K Burke 5-9-1 .... D Sweeney (3) 82
512 (9) 0230-20 SWEET WILHELMINA 20 (CD,G) (C van Hoorn) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-1 L Dettori 78

BETTING: 5-1 Sweet Wilhelmina, 11-2 La Modiste, 6-1 Philistar, 7-1 Arterxerxes, Salty Jack, 8-1 Mr Nevermind, Digpast, 10-1 others

1997: PENGAMON 5-9-10 J Dunn (3-1 jt-fav) H Collingridge 12 ran

FORM FOCUS Hever Golf Glory 16l 7th of 14 to Running Stag in stakes at Lingfield (1m 2f, standard) with Puzzlement (2lb worse off) 25l 9th. Space Race 13l 9th of 10 to Law Dancer in handicap at Wolverhampton (1m 1f 79yd, fibresand). Salty Jack beat Summer Queen neck in 7-runner stakes at Folkestone (6l 189yd, soft). La Modiste 7¼l 7th of 23 to Hunters Of Brora in handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to soft): previously 27l 28th of 30 to Gulf Shaadi in handicap at Newmarket (1m, good) with Sweet Wilhelmina (6lb worse off) 37l last. Digpast 5¼l 4th of 14 to Mellors in handicap at Brighton (7l 214yd, good). Philistar beat Arterxerxes (3lb better off) 1¼l in 7-runner handicap at Lingfield (7l, equitrack) with Salty Jack (5lb better off) 2l 3rd. Sweet Wilhelmina 22l 8th of 15 to Yabint El Sultan in handicap at Newbury (1m 7yd, heavy).

SWEET WILHELMINA can get the better of La Modiste

4.20 DURTNELL LIMITED STAKES (£5,711: 7f 140yd) (10 runners)

601 (2) 0531-14 CHEWIT 48 (CD,F,G) (Ballard (1834) Ltd) G L Moore 6-9-11 . C Lowther (3) 84
602 (8) 821/35- GLEN PARKER 229 (F) (Angus Dundee Plc) H Cecil 5-9-7 .... W Ryan 80
603 (9) 302003- KAYVEE 186 (BF,D,F,G,S) (J Richmond-Watson) Mrs A Perrett 9-9-7 .. A Clark 98
604 (5) 56000-4 MYRMIDON 25 (S) (M Worth) Mrs L Stubbs 4-9-7 .... R Cochrane 84
605 (7) 5034-00 PEARTREE HOUSE 20 (D,F,S) (Fayzad Thoroughbred Ltd) W Muir 4-9-7 J Reid 91
606 (4) 4506010 SILCA BLANKA 41 (D,F,G,S) (G Duckhaven Stud) A Newcombe 6-9-7 J Weaver –
607 (1) 3-13 KING SLAYER 20 (D,S) (A Kitaleq) B Smart 3-8-10 .... J Stack 92
608 (6) 224-30 ARPEGGIO 13 (Lucayan Stud) R Hannon 3-8-8 .... L Dettori 92
609 (10) 31253- BLAKESET 216 (F) (Mrs C Parker) R Hannon 3-8-8 .... R Hughes 108
610 (3) 56102-4 NIGHT FLYER 33 (D,S) (Jampol Partnership) J Hills 3-8-8 .... R Hills 86

BETTING: 7-2 Kayvee, 5-1 Glen Parker, King Slayer, 6-1 Arpeggio, 7-1 Chewit, 8-1 Night Flyer, 10-1 others.

1997: LILLI CLAIRE 4-9-4 T Sprake (8-1) A Foster 7 ran

FORM FOCUS Chewit 11l 4th of 14 to Running Stag in stakes at Lingfield (1m 2l, standard). Glen Parker 5¾l 5th of 8 to Yalta in handicap at Kempton (1m, good). Kayvee 3¾l 3rd of 11 to Strazo in stakes at Nottingham (1m 54yd, good). King Slayer 8¼l 3rd of 6 to Prolix in stakes at Thirsk (1m, good to soft). Arpeggio 12l 8th of 10 to Florazi in handicap at Sandown (1m 14yd, soft). Blakeset 1¾l 3rd of 7 to Monte Lemos in handicap at Newmarket (6l, good to firm). Night Flyer 3¾l 4th of 9 to Timekeeper in stakes (listed) at Pisa (7l 110yd, soft).

Prolix's victory yesterday points to the chance of KING SLAYER

4.50 WEATHERBYS DATA SERVICES MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: £3,460: 7f) (11 runners)

1 (2) 0 MADMUN 14 (BF) (H al-Maktoum) M Tregoning 4-9-10 .... R Hills 57
2 (4) 4-0 RHEIN LADY 18 (Cinder Syndicate) R Rowe 4-9-5 .... J Weaver –
3 (11) 32203- SELFISH 302 (L Marinopoulos) H Cecil 4-9-5 .... W Ryan 80
4 (1) 30- HIGHLY PLEASED 181 (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 3-8-12 .... G Carter 52
5 (5) 0-5 MAAZOOM 18 (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) J Gosden 3-8-12 .... G Hind 60
6 (6) MOON AT NIGHT (Mrs D Joly) I Balding 3-8-12 .... Martin Dwyer –
7 (7) 00- SUNSTREAK 181 (R Rice) C Wall 3-8-12 .... S Sanders 52
8 (3) ELA-ANDRULLA (Mrs A Moleos) G Lewis 3-8-7 .... Paul Eddery –
9 (10) LITTLE EM (G Mizel) R Hodges 3-8-7 .... S Drowne –
10 (8) NIGHT SPIRIT (E Grimstead Honda Ltd) C Brogan 3-8-7 .... L Dettori –
11 (9) 0- TAZKIYA 241 (D Turner) C Benstead 3-8-7 .... A Clark –

BETTING: 6-4 Selfish, 9-2 Maazoom, 6-1 Night Spirit, 8-1 Madmun, Ela-Andrulla, 10-1 others

1997: PRAEDITUS 3-8-12 Dane O'Neill (7-4 fav) R Hannon 12 ran

FORM FOCUS Madmun 11l 9th of 14 to Strachin in maiden stakes at Carlisle (7l 214yd, good to soft). Rhein Lady 27l 7th of 8 to Pelagos in maiden stakes at Brighton (7l 214yd, good). Selfish 1½l 3rd of 13 to Jawhari in maiden stakes at Lingfield (7l 140yd, good to firm). Highly Pleased 15l 7th of 8 to Asad in maiden stakes at Yarmouth (7l 3yd, firm). Maazoom 9¼l 5th of 8 to Russian Party in maiden stakes at Brighton (7l 214yd, good). Sunstreak 17l 14th of 22 to Eco Friendly in maiden stakes at Doncaster (1m, good to soft)

This looks a good opportunity for SELFISH to open his account

NOTTINGHAM

THUNDERER

2.00 Foist. 2.30 Ryefield. 3.00 Hasty Words. 3.30 Volontiers. 4.00 Some Might Say. 4.30 Gift Token. 5.00 REAR WINDOW (nap).

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Batsman. 2.30 TATTINGER (nap). 3.30 Palais.

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 COLWICK PARK APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(£2,425: 6f 15yd) (16 runners)

1 -011 FOIST 4 (D,G,S) M W Easterby 6-9-13 (7ex) S Finnamore (5) 1
2 5-60 INFLATION 21 J Leigh 4-9-10 .... A Nicholls (5) 16
3 50-0 ELEGANT DANCE 36 J Sheehan 4-9-7 .... R Eddery (3) 10
4 45-0 KRAM 25 (S) Mrs P Dutfield 4-9-5 .... N Pollard (5) 11
5 0000 BROADWAY MELODY 31 (V,D) A Jarvis 4-9-4 .... N Callan (5) 8
6 00-0 ANETTA 11 (C,F) J A Harris 4-9-4 .... S Righton (5) 12
7 600- MACGILLYCUDDY 205 (G,S) Mrs Dutfield 9-9-3 Lisa Somers (7) 6
8 000- LOGANLEA 218 W Musson 4-9-2 .... P Shea (7) 4
9 030- DOUBLE MARCH 193 F Ivory 5-9-0 .... G Faulkner 14
10 500- RAMBOLD 204 (D,F,G) N Berry 7-8-13 .... P Bradley (5) 5
11 1254 BATSMAN 35 W Muzzo 4-8-12 .... J Fowle (5) 15
12 1160 ROYAL CASCADE 14 (B,D) B McMahon 4-8-11 D Kilcourse (7) 13
13 0551 RIVER ENSIGN 10 (CD,G,S) W Brisbourne 5-8-10 (7ex) Iona Wands (3) 9
14 003 SAND HAWK 31 D Shaw 3-8-9 .... S Carson (3) 7
15 40-0 NEWHARGEN 10 M Quinn 3-8-5 .... Joanna Badger (7) 3
16 00-0 NELLIE NORTH 18 (B,F) A Chamberlain 5-8-4 J Gotobed (5) 2

9-4 Foist, 11-2 River Ensign, 6-1 Batsman, 10-1 Royal Cascade, 12-1 Inflation, Loganlea, 14-1 Kram, 16-1 others

2.30 WOLLATON MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £3,314: 6f 15yd) (15)

1 0 FLAK JACKET 24 B Meehan 9-0 .... K Fallon 9
2 MI'LUD T Etherington 9-0 .... J Tate 8
3 -800 PRINCE OF SALSA 37 (V) K McAuliffe 9-0 .... S Whitworth 11
4 22-4 RYEFIELD 41 Miss L Perratt 9-0 .... W R Swinburn 13
5 -233 SARA MOON CLASSIC 17 (B) K McAuliffe 9-0 Dane O'Neill 2
6 00-0 SEVEN 37 (B) B Smart 9-0 .... M Tebbutt 14
7 0-60 THE WOODCOCK 21 J Hanson 9-0 .... M Hills 6
8 010- COLOURS TO GOLD 315 R Fahey 8-9 .... J Quinn 10
9 5 CORONET 24 A Stewart 8-9 .... M Roberts 1
10 00 DONNA GRAZIA 17 M Bell 8-9 .... C Carver (7) 12
11 0 HAMERKOP 17 John Berry 8-9 .... M Fenton 7
12 JASMINE R Guest 8-9 .... Pat Eddery 4
13 62-0 POSITIVE AIR 22 B McMahon 8-9 .... T Quinn 3
14 5223 STRAVSEA 11 (BF) B Baugh 8-9 .... R Perham 15
15 03- TATTINGER 240 J Fanshawe 8-9 .... D Harrison 5

3-1 Coronet, 9-2 Tattinger, 5-1 Ryefield, 11-2 Positive Air, 8-1 Flak Jacket, 10-1 Colours To Gold, 14-1 Stravsea, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

NOTTINGHAM: Trainers: H Cecil, 16 winners from 57 runners, 28.1%. B Curley, 3 from 11, 27.3%. E Dunlop, 4 from 20, 20.0%. M Stoute, 7 from 36, 19.4%. W Brisbourne, 3 from 17, 17.6%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 15 winners from 71 rides, 21.1%. M Hills, 12 from 60, 20.0%. K Fallon, 28 from 155, 18.1%. T Quinn, 14 from 87, 16.1%.

CARLISLE: Trainers: S Kettlewell, 4 winners from 15 runners, 26.7%. R Fahey, 5 from 21, 23.8%. Mrs M Reveley, 14 from 61, 23.0%. Mrs J Ramsden, 11 from 52, 21.2%. E Weymes, 5 from 25, 20.0%. Jockeys: R Winston, 5 winners from 15 rides, 33.3%. P Robinson, 8 from 25, 32.0%. T Lucas, 3 from 14, 21.4%. K Darley, 20 from 107, 18.7%. R Lappin, 3 from 18, 16.7%.

STRATFORD: Trainers: P Nicholls, 7 winners from 23 runners, 30.4%. D Nicholson, 16 from 53, 30.2%. M Pipe, 27 from 94, 28.7%. N Henderson, 6 from 24, 25.0%. K Bailey, 14 from 66, 21.2%. Jockeys: C Maude, 6 winners from 23 rides, 26.1%. R Farrant, 7 from 31, 22.6%. L Wyer, 4 from 18, 22.2%. A P McCoy, 27 from 122, 22.1%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Carlisle: 2.10 Little Henry. 3.10 Mountain Dream, Sing And Dance. 4.10 Petite Danseuse. 4.40 King Uno. Nottingham: 2.00 Broadway Melody. 2.30 Prince Of Salsa. 4.00 King's Hussar, Dancing Grey, Boreas Hill. 5.00 Reggie Buck. Stratford: 6.30 Moonlight Air. 8.30 Bold Oriental. Wincanton: 8.15 Raqib.

3.00 EBF FILLIES STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,574: 5f 13yd) (9)

1 21 ANGIE BABY 8 (D,S) J Berry 9-0 .... S Maloney 3
2 1 SNAP CRACKER 14 (D,S) M Quinn 9-0 .... A Whelan 7
3 1 ENTHAISINGH 37 (D,S) C Dwyer 8-12 .... J Gotobed (7) 9
4 313 RISKY VALENTINE 10 (D) J Spearing 8-12 .... M Roberts 8
5 1 LIVELY LADY 17 (D,S) J Jenkins 8-10 .... – 4
6 HASTY WORDS B Hills 8-8 .... M Hills 2
7 LUCY MARIELLA J Arnold 8-8 .... T Quinn 5
8 0 STARVINE 36 R Spicer 8-8 .... J Quinn 6
9 WINDSTORM H Morrison 8-8 .... D Harrison 1

11-4 Angie Baby, 7-2 Snap Cracker, 9-2 Hasty Words, 11-2 Lively Lady, 6-1 Risky Valentine, 7-1 Enthaisingh, 20-1 Lucy Mariella, 25-1 others.

3.30 LEVY BOARD MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,273: 1m 54yd) (12)

1 060- ALLATON 253 Mrs P Sly 9-0 .... M Fenton 8
2 0-0 CROMER PIER 22 M Tompkins 9-0 .... K W Marks 12
3 LANIN D Cosgrove 9-0 .... M Rimmer 11
4 40 LUCKY ME 22 M Tompkins 9-0 .... D Biggs 6
5 MY CAREER E Dunlop 9-0 .... S Whitworth 1
6 4 PALAIS 14 M Stoute 9-0 .... W R Swinburn 2
7 64-3 PORTO FORICOS 22 H Cecil 9-0 .... K Fallon 5
8 0 ROYAL PARADE 4 J Bradley 9-0 .... N Adams 7
9 0-2 SHAPE SHIFTER 20 R Hannon 9-0 .... Dane O'Neill 10
10 2-4 VOLONTIERS 25 (BF) P Harris 9-0 .... Pat Eddery 4
11 6- BRYONY BRIND 198 J Fanshawe 8-9 .... D Harrison 9
12 4 TEA DANCER 8 B Meehan 8-9 .... G Hannon (7) 3

2-1 Porto Foricos, 9-2 Palais, 5-1 Volontiers, 6-1 Shape Shifter, 8-1 My Career, Tea Dancer, 14-1 Bryony Brind, 20-1 others.

4.00 HIGHBURY VALE HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,101: 1m 6f 15yd) (12)

1 2231 SOME MIGHT SAY 66 M Johnston 9-7 .... M Roberts 3
2 060- ST ENODOC 192 J Dunlop 9-3 .... Pat Eddery 7
3 0-05 LEGEND OF LOVE 18 J Glover 9-0 .... N Day 8
4 10-0 RISKY GIRL 17 (G) M Heaton-Ellis 8-13 .... Dane O'Neill 9
5 200- ON THE MAT 253 J J O'Neill 8-9 .... D Harrison 4
6 0-43 ASINBOX 4 B Meehan 8-9 .... K Fallon 12
7 0-62 KING'S HUSSAR 11 (B,BF) R Johnson Houghton 8-8 T Quinn 1
8 00-1 NORTHERN LASS 31 (C,S) M Tompkins 8-8 .... D Biggs 10
9 00-4 SEMI CIRCLE 37 (G) T Easterby 8-4 .... M Fenton 2
10 0400 ESTOPPED 4 M Quinn 8-3 .... A Whelan 6
11 6-00 DANCING GREY 37 (B) P Harris 7-10 .... J Quinn 5
12 06-0 BOREAS HILL 46 (B) J Arnold 7-10 .... D Connor 11

7-2 Some Might Say, 5-1 St Enodoc, 13-2 Semi Circle, 7-1 Asinbox, King's Hussar, Northern Lass, 10-1 Legend Of Love, 12-1 others.

4.30 GILTBROOK STAKES (£3,948: 1m 2f) (6)

1 0-60 NORTHERN SUN 25 (F,G) T Mills 4-9-8 .... T Quinn 2
2 1-30 POLAR CHAMP 20 (V,D,F,S) S Woods 5-9-8 .... N Day 6
3 00-4 GIFT TOKEN 7 (F) D Cheppell 4-9-5 .... K Fallon 5
4 206- MADAME CHINNERY 309 (G) J Eustace 4-9-5 .... J Tate 3
5 61-0 LUCKY DOUBLE 43 (G) R Hannon 3-8-7 .... Dane O'Neill 4
6 10-0 BOBBYDAZZLE 13 (G) Dr J Scargill 3-8-4 .... J Quinn 1

7-4 Gift Token, 7-2 Polar Champ, 5-1 Madame Chinnery, Bobbydazzle, 7-1 Lucky Double, 10-1 Northern Sun

5.00 LADY BAY HANDICAP (£3,036: 1m 2f) (16)

1 00-0 CLASSIC DAME 52 Miss A Stokell 5-10-0 .. P P Murphy (3) 3
2 551- BRAVE ENVOY 45J (C,F,G) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-13 Pat Eddery 16
3 400- TOP SHELF 188J P Bevan 4-9-11 .... D Denby (7) 14
4 00-0 MISSILE TOE 11 (F) D Morris 5-9-9 .... K Fallon 15
5 -122 REAR WINDOW 17 (BF) G McCourt 4-9-8 .... T Quinn 1
6 3000 REGGIE BUCK 38 (B) J L Harris 4-9-7 .... M Rimmer 10
7 0-06 NAVAL GAMES 4 J Bradley 5-9-7 .... R Mullen (3) 13
8 150- MISTER MUNNELLY 265J (F,S) J Jenkins 5-9-7 .... N Day 4
9 15-6 VANADIUM ORE 43 (D,F) W McKeown 5-9-6 .... M Roberts 9
10 223- HAYDN JAMES 140 (B) P Harris 4-9-5 .... W R Swinburn 6
11 /0-0 ISIT IZZY 15 B McMahon 6-9-5 .... J Bramhill 5
12 000- MASHKORAH 326 T Wall 4-9-0 .... L Newton 12
13 60-0 MR MONTAGUE 43 T Donnelly 6-9-0 .... M Fenton 11
14 0-00 MARADI 18 B Curley 4-8-13 .... G Faulkner (5) 8
15 560- MAZILLA 231J (V,CD,F,S) A Streeter 6-8-13 .... R Havlin (3) 2
16 004- HAWKSBILL HENRY 217 Mrs A Perrett 4-8-12 .... D Harrison 7

7-2 Rear Window, 9-2 Brave Envoy, 5-1 Haydn James, 8-1 Vanadium Ore, 10-1 Naval Games, Mazilla, 12-1 Hawksbill Henry, 14-1 others.

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

2.10 Springs Noblequest. 2.40 Monica's Choice. 3.10 Bowcliffe. 3.40 Jayir. 4.10 Gold Edge. 4.40 Bella's Legacy.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 EBF CALDEW MAIDEN STAKES
(2-Y-O: £3,113: 5f) (10 runners)

1 (7) CHALCEDONY T Barron 9-0 .... J Carroll –
2 (2) HIT THE BEACH M W Easterby 9-0 .... G Parkin –
3 (8) LITTLE HENRY (V) P Evans 9-0 .... J F Egan –
4 (5) 4 OLIBERI 34 J Berry 9-0 .... K Darley 54
5 (4) PAT THE FIDDLER M W Easterby 9-0 .... T Lucas –
6 (3) 0 VOSBURGH 22 P Calver 9-0 .... G Duffield 40
7 (1) BOLD FELICITER D Moffatt 8-9 .... Darren Moffatt (3) –
8 (10) 63 ISLE OF SODOR 6 K Hogg 8-9 .... D McKeown 81
9 (6) 4 PENNY MOOR 25 M Johnston 8-9 .... D Holland 50
10 (9) 3 SPRINGS NOBLEQUEST 14 T Easterby 8-9 .... L Charnock 88

11-4 Springs Noblequest, 4-1 Oliberi, 6-1 Chalcedony, 7-1 Isle Of Sodor, Penny Moor, 8-1 Little Henry, 10-1 Vosburgh, 16-1 others.

2.40 FERGUSON COAL CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,416: 6f 206yd) (11)

1 (4) 6/36 MONICA'S CHOICE 4 (D,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-9-11 .... A Culhane 70
2 (11) -011 DANCING LAWYER 4 (D,F,G) K Burke 7-9-7 .... J F Egan 63
3 (8) 00-0 MONACO 29 R Allan 4-9-6 .... G Duffield 50
4 (5) 06/ CLOVER GIRL 7J (V) B Ellison 7-9-4 .... T Williams –
5 (10) 21-0 MURRAY GREY 21 (F) E Weymes 4-9-4 .... L Charnock –
6 (3) 0253 U-NO-HARRY 13 (D,F) R Hollinshead 5-9-3 A McCarthy (3) 47
7 (9) 060- WINTER SCOUT 241 (CD,S) R Fahey 10-9-3 R Winston (5) 73
8 (6) 0620 ALLINSON'S MATE 7 (B,CD,G,S) T Barron 10-9-1 J Carroll 70
9 (1) 0-05 GENERAL HASTIE 8 C Thornton 4-8-13 .... D McKeown 40
10 (7) 0/0- COMMON ROCK 466 (D) J Turner 4-8-12 .... W Supple –
11 (2) 5030 OVER THE MOON 13 N Littmoden 4-8-11 . T G McLaughlin 50

7-2 Monica's Choice, 4-1 Allinson's Mate, 9-2 Dancing Lawyer, 5-1 Winter Scout, 7-1 U-No-Harry, 8-1 Murray Grey, 10-1 Over The Moon, 20-1 others.

3.10 CLYDESDALE BANK HANDICAP
(£3,022: 1m 1f 61yd) (16)

1 (4) 04-2 GYMCRAK PREMIERE 14 (D,S) G Holmes 10-9-13 J Fortune 88
2 (14) 250- BILLY NOMAITE 256 Mrs S Smith 4-9-12 .... D Pears 82
3 (5) 0222 AMICO 48 (BF) C Thornton 4-9-9 .... D McKeown 80
4 (6) d100 BOWCLIFFE 21 (C,D,F,G) E Alston 7-9-9 .... P Robinson 75
5 (2) 30/0 MOUNTAIN DREAM 14 (V) R Allan 5-9-1 .... J Carroll 53
6 (7) 056- SUPERPRIDE 165J (G) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-12 A Culhane 71
7 (12) 44-1 ADVANCE EAST 11 (S) M Dods 6-8-12 (6ex) Dale Gibson 66
8 (10) 500- DOCTOR BRAVIOUS 72J (V) B Ellison 5-8-8 .. T Williams 76
9 (1) 100- COTTAGE PRINCE 176J (F) J J Quinn 5-8-8 .. G Duffield 63
10 (3) 040- THATCHED 183 (C,F,G) R Barr 8-8-3 .... P Fessey (3) 71
11 (11) 2400 LOCH STYLE 29 (F) R Hollinshead 5-8-2 A McCarthy (3) 61
12 (16) 3400 PERPETUAL LIGHT 13J (D) J J Quinn 5-8-0 .. F Norton 62
13 (15) 0233 NOBBY BARNES 5 (D,F,B) Enrico Incisa 9-8-0 Kim Tinkler 81
14 (8) 00-4 SING AND DANCE 15 (V,F) E Weymes 5-8-0 L Charnock 64
15 (13) 2-35 PROTARAS BAY 27 (V) P Gilligan 4-7-13 .... J F Egan 62
16 (9) 550- TARRADALE 160J C Booth 4-7-10 .... D Wright 62

9-2 Amico, 7-1 Gymcrak Premiere, Advance East, Nobby Barnes, 8-1 Bowcliffe, Sing And Dance, 10-1 Protaras Bay, 12-1 others.

3.40 JIM SUMMERS & PARTY HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,035: 7f 214yd) (18)

1 (8) 45-0 JAYIR 37 D Nicholls 9-7 .... Alex Greaves 75
2 (7) 0-00 HAPPY DAYS 15 D Moffatt 9-4 .... Darren Moffatt (3) 72
3 (18) 0-41 SAINTES 29 (D,S) W McKeown 9-4 .... R Winston (5) 79
4 (15) 0250 PORCELLINO 4 K Burke 9-2 .... J F Egan 66
5 (10) 02-0 SON OF SKELTON 14 J Hetherton 9-2 .... K Darley 80
6 (16) 04-0 LORD OF LOVE 14 T Easterby 9-2 .... L Charnock 60
7 (17) 2-22 PRIDE OF BRYN 7 (BF) D Smith 8-9 .... P Fessey (3) 70
8 (3) 000- RIBBLE ASSEMBLY 185 R Fahey 8-9 .... J Carroll 75
9 (12) 0324 TECHNICIAN 29 (V) E Alston 8-6 .... P Robinson 75
10 (4) 00-0 ORLEANS 14 T Tate 8-5 .... T Lucas 66
11 (9) 00-0 AMAZONIAN 30 C Thornton 8-4 .... D McKeown 65
12 (11) 050- SHARP SHOOTER 200 Mrs J Ramsden 8-3 .. F Norton 74
13 (1) 500- BENROCK 213 Mrs G Rees 8-2 .... A McCarthy (3) 50
14 (13) 350- DANCING EM 225 T Easterby 8-2 .... D Wright 73
15 (6) 040- SECOND TERM 185 W Storey 8-1 .... J Fanning 61
16 (5) 0-44 BAYLHAM 7 J Goldie 8-1 .... J McAuley (7) 80
17 (2) 006- DONNA'S DOUBLE 307 Enrico Incisa 8-1 .. Kim Tinkler 60
18 (14) -832 MISS ALL ALONE 11 (BF) J Glover 8-0 .... T Williams 71

9-2 Pride Of Bryn, 7-1 Sharp Shooter, Miss All Alone, 8-1 Saintes, Technician, 10-1 Jayir, Lord Of Love, 12-1 others.

4.10 CARLISLE EXHIBIZION 98 LIMITED STAKES
(£2,304: 5f) (10)

1 (6) 3265 RUDE AWAKENING 8 (V,D,F) C Fairhurst 4-9-6 D Holland 60
2 (9) 0344 CHEMCAST 7 (BF,D,F,S) J Eyre 5-9-3 .... J Carroll 70
3 (7) 000- PRIDE OF BRIXTON 146 (B) C Thornton 5-9-3 D McKeown 62
4 (5) -002 GOLD EDGE 8 (F) Enrico Incisa 4-9-0 .... Kim Tinkler 74
5 (3) 2220 HURGILL LADY 84 D Nicholls 4-9-0 .... Alex Greaves –
6 (8) 4030 PETITE DANSEUSE 4 (B,F,G) D Chapman 4-9-0 A Culhane 59
7 (4) 0-00 ROLLIN ETHOS 21 T Easterby 3-8-8 .... L Charnock 54
8 (2) 1 CHARLIES BRIDE 17 (S) J J O'Neill 3-8-8 .... K Darley 60
9 (1) 0500 LAKELAND PRIDE 3 (B) D Nicholls 3-8-8 A McCarthy (3) 81
10 (10) -000 LADY FROM LIMERICK 10 J Berry 3-8-5 .. P Fessey (3) 88

7-2 Petite Danseuse, 4-1 Chemcast, 5-1 Gold Edge, 11-2 Hurgill Lady, 8-1 Charlies Bride, 10-1 Rude Awakening, Lakeland Pride, 14-1 others.

4.40 BORDER ESK HANDICAP
(£3,074: 5f 207yd) (18)

1 (17) -060 SMOKEY FROM CAPLAW 11 (D,G) J J O'Neill 4-10-0 .... W Supple 70
2 (1) 00-0 COURT EXPRESS 14 (F) T Etherington 4-9-11 .. A Culhane 72
3 (7) 2111 BIRCHWOOD SUN 4 (V,CD,G,S) M Dods 8-9-7 (6ex) .... K Darley 68
4 (16) 0-00 HI MUJTAHID 112 (B,F) S Kettlewell 4-9-1 .... J Carroll 60
5 (18) 0-00 SWOOSH 11 J Glover 3-9-1 .... S D Williams 60
6 (8) 3-06 KING UNO 14 (B,D,G,S) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-0 .. J Fortune 66
7 (11) 2202 MUSTANG 16 (B) C Thornton 5-8-13 .... D McKeown 70
8 (10) 30-0 ORIOLE 38 (D,F,G,S) Enrico Incisa 5-8-11 .. Kim Tinkler 60
9 (5) 1212 BALLANTRAE BOY 1 (BF,G,S) J Goldie 4-8-9 (6ex) .... J McAuley (7) 78
10 (6) 3352 UNSHAKEN 11 (S) E Alston 4-8-8 .... P Robinson 80
11 (3) 10-0 LA VOLTA 14 (B,D,F,G) Miss J Craze 5-8-8 .. T Williams 66
12 (9) 0-00 MISTER WESTSOUND 14 (D,F,G) Miss L Perratt 6-8-7 .... N Kennedy 70
13 (2) 00-6 BREAKIN EVEN 11 (B) J Eyre 3-8-7 .... R Lappin 51
14 (13) -500 STEPHENSONS ROCKET 18 (F,G,S) R Fahey 7-8-5 .... R Winston (5) 70
15 (15) 0031 HENRY THE HAWK 1 (S) M Dods 7-8-8 (6ex) .... D Mernagh (7) 76
16 (14) 00-0 DENSBEN 17 (C,D,F,G,S) D Smith 14-7-13 .. P Fessey (3) 66
17 (4) 5002 BELLA'S LEGACY 8 K Burke 5-7-10 .... A McCarthy (3) 70
18 (12) 000- MUSICAL PET 280 J Eyre 3-7-10 .... Joanne Davies (7) 42

9-2 Henry The Hawk, 11-2 Birchwood Sun, 6-1 Ballantrae Boy, 8-1 Unshaken, Mustang, 10-1 Bella's Legacy, Mister Westsound, 12-1 others.

STRATFORD

THUNDERER

6.00 Bengers Moor. 6.30 Champagne Friend. 7.00 Grimley Gale. 7.30 Ken Risk. 8.00 Major Bell. 8.30 Dan De Man.

Carl Evans: 7.00 Grimley Gale.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

6.00 SHELDON BOSLEY MEMORIAL TROPHY
(Novices chase: £4,068: 2m 5f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 4223 ASHWELL BOY 16 (C,F,G,S) P Hobbs 7-11-8 .. R Dunwoody
2 111F BENGERS MOOR 20 (D,F,G,S) P Nicholls 7-11-6 Mr J Tizzard (3)
3 -PF1 MAID FOR ADVENTURE 44 (D,G) Miss H Knight 7-10-13 A P McCoy
4 /36P ABINGER 149 Miss M Rowland 6-10-12 .... Gary Lyons
5 PP5P BOURBON COUNTY 58 (G) Miss S Wilton 8-10-12 .. D J Burchell
6 1/0 BRAMBLEHILL CHIEF 9 (F) Miss H Knight 7-10-12 .. N Williamson
7 P-P BRIDGE MAN 59 R Alner 8-10-12 .... J Culloty
8 d452 ORIENTAL BOY 45 R Lee 6-10-12 .... R Johnson
9 P/PP TANGLEWOOD BOY 53 (G) Mrs D Butler 7-10-12 .... W Marston

5-4 Bengers Moor, 2-1 Ashwell Boy, 5-1 Maid For Adventure, 12-1 others.

6.30 PRAGNELL TROPHY NOVICES HURDLE (£2,878: 2m 6f 110yd) (17) SKY

1 2211 CHAMPAGNE FRIEND 25 (F,S) D O'Neill 7-11-7 .... V Slattery
2 4153 MOONLIGHT AIR 6 (B,CD,G,S) J Spearing 7-11-7 .. A P McCoy
3 6112 WILLIAM O'DEE 206 (G) P Nicholls 9-11-6 .. Mr J Tizzard (3)
4 1526 OI MOTHER 63 (G,S) D Nicholson 6-11-1 .... R Johnson
5 3324 FUJIYAMA CREST 42 (B) N Henderson 6-11-0 .. R Dunwoody
6 0044 JOWAN POND 48 H Haynes 6-11-0 .... J Culloty
7 0P6- MC CLATCHEY 594 Miss A Broyd 7-11-0 .... Michael Brennan
8 P-4 NIGELS CHOICE 9 A D Smith 6-11-0 .... R Farrant
9 3263 ROYAL BARGE 99 (S) P Bowen 8-11-0 .... W Marston
10 60PF SAFE TO ASSUME 13 R Brazington 7-11-0 .... J R Kavanagh
11 2 STRONG ARROW 56 G Hubbard 5-11-0 .... N Williamson
12 2P/B TALENT SPOTTER 36 R Smith 11-11-0 .... C Maude
13 21-6 WILLIE B BRAVE 15 (S) R Phillips 7-11-0 .... S Curran
14 -P40 LUCRATIVE PERK 75 Miss C Caroe 6-10-9 .... C Webb (3)
15 6/F- MISS CRESTA 453P (F) Mrs P Robeson 9-10-9 Mr S Morris (7)
16 400P THE BIZZO 15 J Panvert 7-10-9 .... P Henley (3)
17 3222 TULLOW LADY 249 (BF) D Brennan 7-10-9 .... M Brennan

3-1 Fujiyama Crest, 5-1 William O'Dee, 6-1 Champagne Friend, Oi Mother, 7-1 Moonlight Air, 8-1 Royal Barge, 10-1 Strong Arrow, 12-1 others.

7.00 JOHN AND NIGEL THORNE MEMORIAL CUP SKY
(Hunters chase: amateurs: £2,178: 3m) (16)

1 P/1- LORD KILTON 370 (F) Mrs D Cowley 10-12-6 .. P Cowley (7)
2 1-2B SEVERN INVADER 44 (D,F,B) Miss Gosling 13-12-6 .... Miss H Gosling (7)
3 1411 GRIMLEY GALE 5P (D,F,G,S) M Jackson 9-12-1 M Jackson (7)
4 3-4P ALBERT BLAKE 9 (D,G,S) T R Kinsey 11-12-0 .. G Hanmer (7)
5 PP15 ASHMEAD RAMBLER 6 (D,S) W Bush 8-12-0 .... S Bush (5)
6 13/6 BLACKGUARD 9 (D,F) L Grassick 12-12-0 .... J Grassick (7)
7 F/31 BLAYNEYS PRIVILEGE 33P (D,S) Miss T Habgood 11-12-0 .... Miss T Habgood (7)
8 13U3 FACTOR TEN 6P (F,G) J Richardson 10-12-0 . J Richardson (7)
9 0/3P GENSERIC 13P (G) M Hammond 8-12-0 .... M Hammond (7)
10 4312 GOLDEN SAVANNAH 27P (G,S) C Weller 8-12-0 . G Maundrell (7)
11 6UPP KARLOVAC 4 (B,F) K Thomas 12-12-0 .... G Thomas (7)
12 U113 LUCKY CHRISTOPHER 4P (D,F,G,S) G Tarry 13-12-0 . G Tarry (5)
13 -111 OZZIE JONES 6P (D,F,G,S) K Pearce 7-12-0 . Miss L Pearce (7)
14 5-4P R N COMMANDER 40P (B) J Cornwall 12-12-0 .. J Cornwall (7)
15 44U3 TUDOR FABLE 7P (G,S) C Sweeting 10-12-0 .... R Sweeting (7)
16 23-3 ZAM BEE 12P (D,F,G,S) Mrs A Bell 12-12-0 .... N M Bell (7)

7-4 Grimley Gale, 5-1 Ozzie Jones, 6-1 Factor Ten, Lucky Christopher, 12-1 Golden Savannah, 14-1 Severn Invader, Tudor Fable, 16-1 others.

7.30 NEEDHAM & JAMES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,183: 2m 110yd) (12) SKY

1 1152 BURES 80 (D,F,G) Mrs J Brown 7-11-11 .... S Kelly (7)
2 4-46 STYLISH ALLURE 257 (D,G,S) P Bowen 5-11-10 .. W Marston
3 1120 BELMARITA 50 (D,F,G) G Hubbard 5-11-9 .... N Williamson
4 3002 NOBLE LORD 13 (D,F,G) R Phillips 5-11-7 .... R Dunwoody
5 3-33 TIGHT FIST 179 (D,F,S) Miss H Knight 8-11-7 .... R Farrant
6 1160 BALLADUR 85 (BF,D,G,S) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-7 .... B Clifford
7 1210 KEN RISK 36 (B,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 6-11-5 .... A P McCoy
8 4020 SECRET SERVICE 43 (D,G,S) C Barwell 6-10-12 .. R Johnson
9 0021 KING OF THIEVES 16 (D,G,S) C Mann 6-10-11 .. D Gallagher
10 5421 FERRUFINO 7F (D,F,G) P Rich 10-10-9 .... M Griffiths (7)
11 8451 ANTIGUAN FLYER 49 (V,D,F) G Prodromou 9-10-5 .... Michael Brennan
12 5530 BON VOYAGE 102 (B,G,S) P Hobbs 8-10-3 .... C Maude

7-2 King Of Thieves, 5-1 Ken Risk, 7-1 Noble Lord, 8-1 Bures, Belmarita, Balladur, Ferrufino, 12-1 others.

8.00 V E DAY HANDICAP CHASE SKY
(£8,244: 2m 5f 110yd) (15)

1 0425 STATELY HOME 104 (CD,F,G) P Bowen 7-12-0 .. N Williamson
2 1P20 POTTER'S BAY 51 (F,G) D Nicholson 9-11-12 .... R Johnson
3 F320 MAJOR BELL 20 (F,G,S) A Whillans 10-11-9 .... B Harding
4 -P25 STRONG MEDICINE 155 (CD,F,G,S) K Bailey 11-11-4 .. L Wyer
5 3332 LINTON ROCKS 57 (F,G,S) P Nicholls 9-10-13 Mr J Tizzard (3)
6 3805 TERAO 42 (B,D,F,G,S) M Pipe 12-10-13 .... C Maude
7 3P31 WAYWARD KING 14 (D,G,S) R Hodges 6-10-11 . T Dascombe
8 6115 EASTHORPE 48 (F,G,S) Miss H Knight 10-10-11 .... J Culloty
9 2215 SIR DANTE 37 (D,F,G) R Rowe 7-10-10 .... A Garrity (7)
10 31-0 POLDEN PRIDE 48 (D,F,S) G Balding 10-10-10 .... F Kenny (7)
11 1253 AMLAH 154 (F,G) P Hobbs 6-10-8 .... R Dunwoody
12 4021 NAIYSARI 13 (G,S) P Rich 10-10-8 .... A P McCoy
13 P213 PONGO WARING 147 (BF,F,G) Miss H Knight 9-10-8 .. G Bradley
14 US32 MISTER DRUM 14 (F,G,S) M Wilkinson 9-10-0 .... W Marston
15 PPPP MAPLE DANCER 34 (C,F,G,S) D Williams 12-10-0 . G Shenkin (5)

7-2 Naiysari, 6-1 Wayward King, 7-1 Potter's Bay, 8-1 Linton Rocks, Sir Dante, 10-1 Easthorpe, Amlah, 12-1 others.

8.30 ANNE HATHAWAY NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,738: 2m 110yd) (17)

1 1333 MIDAS 44 (B,BF,D,F,G) M Pipe 7-12-0 .... A P McCoy
2 5526 BULLFINCH 67 R Phillips 5-11-12 .... I Lawrence
3 F826 PENROSE LAD 24 (BF) P R Webber 8-11-6 .... R Johnson
4 5242 BARTHOLOMEW FAIR 15 C Dwyer 7-11-4 .... R Farrant
5 1225 DAN DE MAN 48 (D,G) Miss L Siddall 7-11-4 .. R Dunwoody
6 6155 SOLDIER MAK 58 (G) J Mackie 5-11-0 .... E Husband (3)
7 20-3 COUNCILLOR 13 Miss A Broyd 7-10-13 .... J R Kavanagh
8 354 BOLD ORIENTAL 78 (B) C Brooks 4-10-13 .... G Bradley
9 5222 HEART 24 Miss H Knight 5-10-10 .... J Power (7)
10 2665 HIGHTECH TOUCH 58 L Grassick 8-10-10 .... Mr J Grassick
11 P652 MADAM LUCY 4F J Spearing 4-10-8 .... N Williamson
12 353P PERSIAN BUTTERFLY 81 (CD,G) R Stronge 6-10-6 . J Culloty
13 4000 KOATHARY 44 (B) A H Harvey 7-10-7 .... L Wyer
14 5U3- BALLY PARSON 355 (F,G) R Dickin 12-10-7 .. X Aizpuru (3)
15 0036 SILENT ACTION 25 N Smith 6-10-5 .... M Sharratt
16 202P REAL FIRE 112 (D,F) M Meagher 4-10-4 .... F Leahy (3)
17 04-6 MOOR HALL LADY 122 A Carroll 7-10-4 .... W Marston

5-1 Midas, 7-1 Heart, 8-1 Penrose Lad, Dan De Man, 10-1 Bartholomew Fair, Soldier Mak, Councillor, Koathary, 12-1 others.

FOOTBALL

Wilkins evicted as Keegan takes over at Craven Cottage

By Matt Dickinson

RAY WILKINS always seemed an unlikely sidekick for Kevin Keegan: one forever associated with the nullifying square ball; the other a champion of cavalier — some would say kamikaze — football. So it proved at Fulham yesterday when Keegan, the club's chief operating officer, sacked his long-time friend and former England team-mate and took over the managerial reins.

Keegan refused to say if he would remain in charge after the summer, but he made one promise that will surprise no one. When they face Grimsby Town in the Nationwide League second division play-off first leg on Saturday, his Fulham side will be going on the attack.

When Wilkins and Keegan swept into Craven Cottage in September, backed by Mohamed Al Fayed's millions, Wilkins claimed that "whatever Kevin has been involved with has been exciting and dangerous".

Just how dangerous he found out yesterday when he was told to clear his desk, paying the price for the growing fears of Al Fayed, the Fulham owner, that his side might fail to win promotion through the play-offs and delay his five-year plan to reach the FA Carling Premiership. Having given the pair more than £7 million to spend on players, another year in the second division was an unthinkable prospect.

Keegan is understood to have harboured his own doubts as to whether Wilkins, a failure in his previous managerial job at Queens Park Rangers, could do the job successfully on a long-term basis and an approach is believed to have been made to Ruud Gullit about taking over this summer. The Dutchman, sacked by Chelsea this season, and Peter Beardsley, Fulham's highly experienced former England striker, were the first names out of the rumour mill as potential managers should Keegan decide to make his tenure in the dugout a short one.

That is by no means certain, however, given the increasingly hands-on role he was assuming at the club because of his misgivings over Wilkins's handling of the side. Wilkins attempted to resist Keegan's growing influence but when he held firm this week, it cost him his job.

"When Ray took the job and we had the discussion in Scotland about it, he knew I had the final decision on football matters," Keegan said. "We had to part company because of a difference of opinion. Ray is a very good guy, but we realised we had come to the point where one of us had to go."

Keegan is believed to have been unhappy about Wilkins's cautious tactics, particularly his decision to keep Tony Thorpe on the bench, as Fulham lost their last three league games and scraped into the play-offs on goals scored.

The former Newcastle United manager admitted as much when he said: "I think we can get at teams a bit more and set ourselves up better to cause teams problems. We need to get them penned in. Yes, you can get caught on the break, but we have nothing to fear but fear itself."

While Fulham's players were ordered to stay discreet, Paul Watson, recently sold to Brentford, offered a revealing insight into Keegan's control over team affairs before Wilkins's dismissal.

"Ray took the training and he was nominally in charge," Watson said, "but Keegan was always there as well, overseeing everything. He would train with us two or three times a week and, to be honest, you were never really sure who was in charge behind the scenes — him or Wilkins. Even in team talks, Keegan was always involved and would come in at half-time.

"Sometimes it was very hard to know who was the boss, because one would tell you one thing and the other something else." We know who the boss is now. The Keegan cavalry is back.

MICHAEL STEPHENS



Wilkins and Keegan before they parted company yesterday

LUCA BRUNO



Ronaldo is the centre of attention as he holds aloft the Uefa Cup during Inter's celebrations after their impressive victory over Lazio in Paris

Pre-emptive strike decisive for Inter

Brian Glanville on Lazio's meek capitulation to their Italian rivals in the Uefa Cup final

SOCCER means surprise, you might legitimately say. The Uefa Cup final in Paris on Wednesday seemed, in prospect, very evenly balanced. After all, Lazio had taken four points from Internazionale in the Italian league, beating them 3-0 and drawing 0-0. Inter had Ronaldo; Lazio's defence, statistically at least, had been outstanding.

Yet what happened? Inter scored the simplest of goals after just five minutes, after which Lazio found themselves lamely chasing the game, the team increasingly demoralised and, by the end, lucky to lose only 3-0.

It was all very well for Sven Goran Eriksson, the Swedish manager of Lazio, to say that the early goal set the course of the game. But what sort of defence opens up like the waters of the light blue sea to a 50-yard pass that put Ivan Zamorano clear of the whole back four?

This goal had its deeply embarrassing equivalent in Inter's third, when Moriero's pass sent Ronaldo scampering almost half the length of the field to score with derisory ease.

Eriksson, who agreed and then declined to join Blackburn Rovers last summer, took dubious shelter behind the early goal. Yet by the end, Lazio had virtually surrendered.

The utter collapse in morale was an embarrassment. No doubt at all that Gigi Simone, the Inter manager, tactically outflanked Eriksson. How ironic to recall that when things went wrong in pre-season matches, the likeable Simone was so nearly dismissed by his president, Massimo Moratti, who also publicly berated Ronaldo in mid-season, when that extraordinary striker temporarily fell out of form. This, clearly, is a president who still has something to learn.

"Tactically," Simone said, "we solved the problem posed by Lazio. We decided not to stay in midfield, but to play through it. That's why I chose to play with three strikers and to sacrifice Moriero to the advantage of Zamorano. With his great physical attributes, his speed, his determination, Zamorano played a very important part in building our victory."

Indeed he did, with his fine early goal, a shot against a post and the perfect header back for Zanetti to score Inter's second goal. When Moriero came on, he played ducks and drakes with the dispirited Lazio defence. He nearly got a fourth for Inter when Jugovic limply allowed him to make an angle for a shot that was deflected by Marchegiani, the Lazio goalkeeper.

Jugovic, strangely below par, excused his team on the grounds of that early goal that Inter, he said, were able to exploit strongly. "Everyone put himself behind the ball and they were able to build counter-attacks which did us harm," he said. "We gave away goals which, logically, came out of this situation."

Logically, the truth is that Lazio — Roberto Mancini, Marchegiani and Fuser apart — simply wilted. Eriksson consoled himself that at least his team had won the Italian Cup and reached the Uefa Cup final. But what did they do when they got there?

As Youri Djorkaeff, Inter's France striker, so familiar with the Parc des Princes, remarked of his team, it showed "an extraordinary osmosis".

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

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* UK p&p is £2.50 per order. We apologise for the mistake on the order form in Wednesday's paper











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CHANGING TIMES

Tiverton determined to erase five years of pain

Walter Gammie looks forward with keen anticipation to an intriguing FA Vase final at Wembley

In seven seasons of phenomenal success with Tiverton Town, the enviable record of Martyn Rogers, the manager, is that his worst spell is "losing two matches on the trot".

That pin-prick of inconvenience for a club that Rogers has swept to a fourth Screwfix Direct League title this season with an extraordinary 36 wins and two draws from 38 matches will be replaced by a more substantial hurt if Tiverton were to lose the FA Carlsberg Vase final to Tow Law Town at Wembley tomorrow.

Rogers and six members of his squad, Jason Smith, Neil Saunders, Phil Everett, Kevin Smith, Steve Daly and Steve Hynds, have long carried the pain of losing the 1993 Vase final 1-0 to Bridlington Town, and make no secret of their ambition to make amends.

Tow Law, their Arnott Insurance Northern League opponents, set off on a seven-round Vase trail with no such expectations. The thrill of reaching Wembley by beating Taunton Town, Tiverton's great league rivals, in the semi-finals has been diluted for Peter Quigley, a new manager this season. He has nursed a squad struck by injury and suspension through 20 matches in 44 days. That spell came to a merciful end on Monday.

Quigley, though, has prepared thoroughly, picking the brains of Colin Richardson, manager of the Bridlington side that beat Tiverton and also a Vase winner with Whickham in 1981, and Harry Dunn, who carried Whitby Town to victory last year. "It's a matter picking out the bits best suited to your team and your particular way of doing things," Quigley said.

"The bookmakers have Tiverton 11-10 on. They have been the favourites from the early rounds, but we feel we can show we come from a stronger league. There seems to be only two teams in their league in terms of points. We have beaten Taunton — and I don't think you get fluke results over two legs."

Rogers is also prepared. "Last time, we were a bit cavalier," he said. I blame myself. I was a bit naive as a manager then. That five or six players have been to Wembley before will be a big help."

The renowned footballing community of the North East has come out in force to back Tow Law. Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle United manager, went to the club this week to deliver a set of tracksuits and trainers to wear on their trip yesterday to their base at the Hilton in Watford. Bob Murray, the Sunderland chairman, opened up the Stadium of Light on Tuesday for Tow Law to train there.

"It's very good PR," Quigley said. "It's easy to forget, in a working-class area like the North East, that it's very difficult for kids to get tickets to attend matches. It's all season ticket-holders at Newcastle and will be the same at Sunderland, if they go up, and at Middlesbrough.

"We help to give youngsters a chance to enjoy the fundamentals. I think the clubs appreciate that future Alan Shearers might just be found in places like ours."

Tow Law have sold 4,000 tickets. "There are only 2,000 people in the town," Quigley said. "There will be tumbleweed in the streets." With Tiverton having sold 7,000 tickets, it promises to be one of the better-supported finals.

It also promises to be a good one. Rogers's free-scoring side — 154 goals in the league alone — boasts Everett (54), Daly (39), Kevin Nancekivell (35), Pete Varley (33) and Kevin Smith (36), an explosive attacking potential.

Yet Rogers and Quigley both know, the day may be won in the delicate war of psychology in the dressing-rooms. "My main fear is that the players won't use their heads, rather use their hearts," Quigley said. "It's easy to get worked up in a frenzy. I want them to play intelligently, use their skill and make use of the ball."

TIVERTON TOWN (from) P Edwards, P Tatterton, D Leonard, J Smith, N Saunders, P Conning, P Everett, K Smith, S Daly, S Hynds, M Falkon, K Nancekivell, S Rogers, G Waters, M Grimshaw

TOW LAW TOWN (from) S Dawson (or I Aitken), G Moan, P Hogue, D Darwent, M Robinson, S Pickering, W Johnson, A Nelson, J Suddick, T Laidler, M Bailey, J Hall, L Bennett, T Masson, D Watkins, M Vasey

Warnock leaves Oldham

NEIL WARNOCK yesterday left Oldham Athletic, the Nationwide League second division club, by mutual consent. Oldham, in the FA Carling Premiership four years ago, have severe financial restrictions.

Warnock, 49, said: "It's fair to say the finances of the club are in a dire situation, but I still feel that, with a couple of players, we could have got into the play-offs."

Andy Ritchie, a long-time favourite at Boundary Park and a coach under Warnock, is favourite to take over.

Derek Mountfield, 35, the Walsall player-coach, wants the manager's job after the dismissal of Jan Sorensen. The former Everton, Aston Villa and Wolverhampton Wanderers central defender applied for the post last summer and said: "I see no reason why I shouldn't do so again."

Kevin Davies, the £5 million-rated Southampton striker, has been forced to withdraw from the England Under-21 squad for the prestigious Toulon tournament.

Davies, 20, suffered a badly-gashed knee in the game with Wimbledon last month — on his return from a lengthy ankle injury — and the wound has not healed in time. The former Chesterfield player said: "I've given up hope of making it."

By Our Sports Staff

SPORT IN BRIEF

Scotland look to Wood for example

■ **BOWLS:** Willie Wood, 60, outshone his younger colleagues in the first match between Scotland and Australia in Warilla yesterday, but could not prevent a 2-1 defeat (David Rhys Jones writes). He kept his triples side in contention until Rex Johnston, the Australia skip, collected two trebles for an 18-13 victory.

Then, although his team-mates, Kenny Logan and George Adrain lost 25-9 in the pairs, Wood defeated Steve Glasson, the Australian No 1, in straight sets in the singles.

☐ England started the Israeli international youth tournament at Ra'anana yesterday with a 6-2 victory in the opening match of the five-country event. In the other match yesterday, Wales beat the strong South Africa team 6-2.

■ **TENNIS:** Monica Seles's preparation for the French Open suffered a setback yesterday when she was defeated in the third round of the Italian Open. The former world No 1, who appears to be regaining something like her previous form, despite the worrying distraction of her father's battle against cancer, lost 6-2, 4-6, 7-5 to Sandrine Testud, of France.

■ **CYCLING:** Jon Clay, who won the British ten-mile time-trial and was fourth in the 169-kilometre Lincoln grand prix on the same day last year, will tackle the double again on Sunday. He and his Brite team colleagues use a helicopter to get them from Boutisham, near Cambridge, to the Lincoln event.

■ **CRICKET:** Hampshire have sold the County Ground in Southampton, their home since 1885, to developers for £5 million.

BASEBALL
BASKETBALL
BOWLS
CRICKET
FOOTBALL
TODAY'S FIXT

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

MOTOR RACING

Coulthard ready to play more than supporting role

FROM KEVIN EASON IN BARCELONA

DAVID COULTHARD'S jaw was set, his eyes fixed ahead as he faced yet another question yesterday that underlined his struggle to be recognised as one of the world's best Formula One drivers.

Even though he has won four grands prix — including the San Marino race two weeks ago — and could win the Spanish Grand Prix here this weekend and go on to be world champion, there is something of the eternal bridesmaid about the Scot.

When the rumour mill cranked into action, speculating over which driver will go to which team next year, Coulthard's name fell immediately into the frame, but only as a possible replacement for Michael Schumacher at Ferrari and as a No 2.

Coulthard, 27, is widely regarded as the No 2 at McLaren, though he won twice last year in a car that had yet to reach the full glorious performance of this season. The opening grand prix in Australia, when he pulled over to allow Mika Hakkinen, his team-mate, through, only confirmed suspicions about his status. Though Coulthard says that it was his decision, how much was his thinking affected by the need to keep his team managers sweet if he was to mount his own assault on the title as the year progressed?

The events in Melbourne have obviously weighed on his mind and his relationship with Hakkinen, which seemed almost brotherly then, has clearly cooled as competition has intensified. "I believe I deserve an opportunity to race on an equal footing," Coulthard said yesterday. "I don't question that, I don't see why anyone else should. I've proved I have the speed and I know that people will think, because of the undoubted performance and consistency Mika has showed, that he is the quicker driver.

"But I would say, please look at the times and race performances rather than putting me into a bracket that seems to mean me drifting into No 2 position rather than deserving my position as No 1."

Coulthard's image is dour and uncomprising but he is, in fact, one of the paddock jokers, immensely popular and with a ready supply of one-liners. But the rumours that he is on the move wear him down, particularly when he believes his record should speak for itself.



Coulthard: underrated

That record could be improved further this weekend when the McLarens are expected to dominate again.

First, though, Coulthard has to establish psychological dominance over his phlegmatic Finnish team-mate and ensure that the private battle between them does not allow Schumacher to cash in.

"We have a better chance here than we did in the last race at Imola," Coulthard said. "I think the last two races have helped a lot because, after Brazil, Mika was very confident because he was quicker all weekend then.

"I think he thought that would automatically make him quicker in Argentina — and that was a mistake on his part. It was important for me just to remind Mika that no matter how quick you think you are, I just outqualified you by seven-tenths [of a second] where he only managed six-tenths in Brazil.

"He's a guy who carries a lot of self-confidence in the car and you have to say in his career, one of his strengths is that he has looked very good against other team-mates. I believe I've improved as a driver over the past couple of years while I have been alongside him and that can't be easy for him, because he has maintained a level and I've taken a step forward.

"The important thing is that the pair of us are far enough ahead of Michael so that we can then battle for the championship, and then we can do what we need to as drivers."

Rookie Wood knocks on door of history

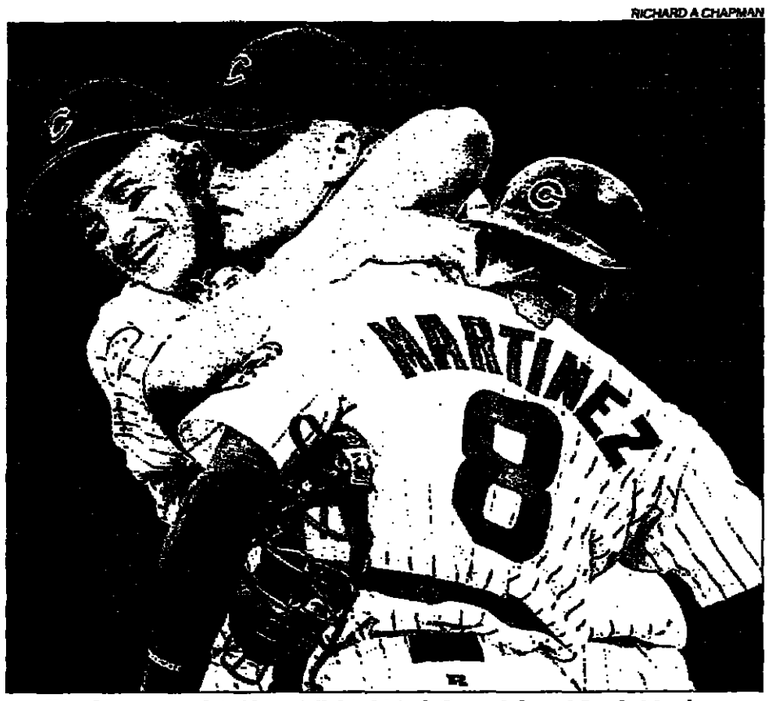
Keith Blackmore relates a striking achievement by baseball's latest one-hit wonder

A new star shot across the baseball firmament on Wednesday when a 20-year-old rookie from Texas equalled one of the sport's greatest records. Kerry Wood, who was making only his fifth start for the Chicago Cubs, struck out 20 Houston Astros.

Wood's astonishing effort, in which he gave up only one hit and a disputed one at that, gave his team a 2-0 victory, catapulted him from obscurity to fame in a single night and put his name on the same page in the record books as one of the greatest modern pitchers, Roger Clemens. Clemens has twice struck out 20 batters, in 1986 and 1996, both times while playing for the Boston Red Sox.

In an embryonic career, Woods had won twice and lost twice by the time he took the mound against the Astros, who are leading the National League West. No one expected the kind of performance he gave. Jim Riggleman, his manager, was in awe. "I think that's the best game I have ever seen pitched," he said. "You can't explain how great he threw today." Woods certainly could not find the words. "I couldn't even imagine doing something like this, to tell the truth. It's just the greatest thrill to be associated with Roger Clemens."

RICHARD A CHAPMAN



Wood is congratulated by a delighted Mark Grace, left, and Sandy Martinez

Wood struck out (getting a batter to leave a pitch thrown in the strike zone or play and miss three times) each and every Astro at least once and four times struck out all three batters in an inning.

But for a controversial scoring decision, Wood might have achieved the ultimate feat by pitching a no-hitter (an entire game in which no opposing batter reaches first base safely as the result of a hit). In the third inning, Ricky Gutierrez clipped a ground ball towards the third baseman, Kevin Orrie. Orrie stuck out a hand but failed to snare the ball, an effort that might well have been scored an error on the fielder rather than a hit against the pitcher. Orrie himself thought it should have been.

Elsewhere in the Major Leagues, events have been less surprising. The New York Yankees, boasting the game's biggest payroll, have been crushing the life out of American League teams, winning 21 of their last 23 games. Only a surprisingly bright performance by the Red Sox has kept them in sight in the East division.

There is a similar story in the National League, where those perennial powerhouses, the Atlanta Braves, have begun hitting the opposition out of sight. Given that the Braves' traditional strength, pitching, has been up to its usual high standard, opponents are struggling.

The San Diego Padres, however, have defied modest expectations in the West division. Although beaten on Wednesday, they lead second-placed San Francisco Giants by 4½ games already.

More predictable has been the sharp decline of the Florida Marlins. When the Marlins won the World Series last October, just four years after their formation, a bright future should have been assured. Instead, a round of budget cuts has sent most of the stars on their way and the dispirited bunch left behind have sunk to the foot of their division.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

Wednesday's late results

UEFA CUP: Final: Lazio 0 Internazionale 3
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Liverpool 4 Arsenal 0
OTHER MATCHES: Chelsea 3 Nottingham Forest 3; Manchester City 0 Jamaica 0
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Fulham 1 Norwich 0. Second division: Tottenham 6 Brighton 0.
LEAGUE OF WALES: Caernarfon 1 Bangor City 1
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Ipswich 0 Crystal Palace 2.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Oldham 2 West Bromwich 1.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 8 Walsall Wood 2.
COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Chessington and Hook 5 Netherne 0; Viking Sports 0 Cranleigh 1.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Greenwich 3 Faversham 0; Swanley Furness 1 Sheppey 1
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Clitheroe 1 Burscough 2. Kidsgrove 3 Blackpool Rovers 0
MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division north: Arlesey 0 Milton Keynes 4. Bedford 0 Potters Bar 1. Letchworth 1 Hoddesdon 3. Premier division south: Brook House 3 Waltham Abbey 1
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch 4 Melr kA 2; Worcester 0 Bolehill Swifts 0. Postponed: Massey Ferguson v David Lloyd AFC
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: N Spencer 3 Cogenhoe 2
ARGENTINE LEAGUE: Ferro Carril Oeste 1 Newell's 1, Huracan 2 Boca Juniors 4. Rosario Central 1 Velez Sarsfield 2; Lanus 2 San Lorenzo 1; Racing 2 Gimnasia y Tiro 1. Gimnasia Jujuy 1 Argentinos Juniors 0. Gimnasia La Plata 3 Union 0. Colon 0 Independiente 1.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Oakland 5 Detroit 10, Boston 7 Minnesota 8, Cleveland 14 Baltimore 5; Kansas City 0 Tampa Bay 5, Texas 13 NY Yankees 15; Anaheim 5 Toronto 8; Seattle 10 Chicago White Sox 6
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Milwaukee 3 San Diego 2; Philadelphia 7 Colorado 6 (10 innings); Atlanta 7 Los Angeles 0, Chicago Cubs 2 Houston 0; Florida 9 San Francisco 10; Montreal 2 Cincinnati 4, Pittsburgh 5 St Louis 0; NY Mets 8 Arizona 2

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Second round play-offs: Eastern Conference: Chicago 76 Charlotte 78 (series tied 1-1). Western Conference: Seattle 68 Los Angeles Lakers 92 (series tied 1-1).

BOWLS

WARILLA: International match: Australia bt Scotland 2-1 (Australia first). Triples: K Kerkow, S Glasson and R Johnston bt K Kerkow, S Glasson and R Johnston bt K Logan, W Wood and G Adrain 18-13. Pairs: Kerkow and Johnston bt Logan and Adrain 25-9. Singles: Glasson lost to Wood 5-7, 6-7, 5-7.
RA'ANANA: Israeli international youth tournament: England 6 Scotland 2 (England first). Singles: I Jenkins lost to B Mellors 25-20. Pairs: D Holder and D Auckland bt A Lauder and G Campbell 16-13. Triples: D Kaige, A Hollis and I Mayne bt S Glen, D Burnett and S Dodds 19-12. Wales 6 South Africa 2 (Wales first). Singles: G Williams bt P Dixon 25-22. Pairs: N Rees and A Price lost to S Jankelowitz and R Gerber 25-14. Triples: D Bushell, J Britton and J Webley bt E van der Westhuizen, G Lotter and N Rusing 22-10.

CRICKET

SCHOOLS MATCHES: * Aldenham 94 Westminster 96-9; Incognito 168 * Haberdashers' Aske's 169-1. MCC 170-9 * Bedford 179-4. MCC 221-7 dec * Repton 144. MCC 163-4 * Brentwood 187-5. Reeds 128 * Tiffin 127-7; Uppingham 211, * Stamford 163-7; XI Club 165-7 dec. * Chigwell 166-5. * Wrekin 194-4 dec King's, Worcester 98-7 * denotes home side

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: West zone: Devon 1 Cornwall 2; Herefordshire 1 Gloucestershire 0; Devon 2 Herefordshire 1; Dorset 1 Cornwall 1, Gloucestershire 2 Devon 0; Herefordshire 1 Dorset 4, Gloucestershire 3 Cornwall 2, Dorset 4 Devon 1, Herefordshire 6 Cornwall 2; Dorset 3 Gloucestershire 1 Final positions: 1, Dorset 10; 2, Herefordshire 6, 3, Gloucestershire 6

ICE HOCKEY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Preliminary round: At Basle: Group D: Russia 4 Finland 2. At Zurich: Group C: Switzerland 5 France 1.

RUGBY LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION: Wakefield 18 Keighley 0, Whitehaven 34 Leigh 12. Postponed: Swinton v Dewsbury
SECOND DIVISION: Doncaster 33 Batley 20
ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Halifax 18 Hunslet 25, St Helens 18 Widnes 16.

RUGBY UNION

THE WILLIS CORROON HIBERNIA CUP: RAF 8 Royal Navy 11
CLUB MATCH: Liverpool St Helens 7 Fylde 7

SAILING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Eighth leg (Annapolis to La Rochelle) Positions (at 1200GMT yesterday, with miles to finish): 1, Merit Cup (Monaco) 2443 5, 2, Toshiba (US) 2448.3, 3, Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 2468 3 4, EF Education (Swe) 2478 4, 5, BrunelSunergy (Holl) 2478 2, 6, EF Language (Swe) 2490, 7, SA Cup (GB) 2483, 8, Chessie Racing (US) 2483 5, 9, Swedish Match (Swe) 2486

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: King's Lynn 52 Swindon 38
PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Hull 44 Berwick 46.
SPEEDWAY STAR CUP: Poole 39 Ipswich 51

TENNIS

HAMBURG: German Open: Second round: W Ferreira (SA) bt M Rios (Chile) 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; G Kuerten (Br) bt S Draedel (Cz) 6-4, 6-4; G Ivanesevic (Cro) bt N Lapentti (Ec) 4-6, 6-1, 6-4; H Arazi (Mor) bt T Henman (GB) 6-3, 6-3; G Rusedski (GB) bt E Alvarez (Spi 7-6, 0-6, 6-3; S Bruguera (Sp) bt N Escudé (Fr) 6-0, 6-2, K Kucera (Slovakia) bt R Fromberg (Aus) 6-2, 6-1, A Correjia (Sp) bt K Alami (Mor) 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, F Clavet (Sp) bt M Chang (US) 6-3, 6-7, 6-2. Third round: A Costa (Sp) bt Ferreira 6-3, 6-3, T Muster (Austria) bt J Knappschild (Ger) 6-1, 6-4; Kuerten bt H Arazi (Mor) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2; F Mantilla (Sp) bt A Berasategui (Sp) 1-6, 7-6, 7-6, F Santoro (Fr) bt R Krajicek (Holl) 7-5, 7-6

CORAL SPRINGS, Florida. Red Clay Championship: First round. A Ilie (Aus) bt J Stollenberg (Aus) 6-4 7-5, W Black (Zim) bt M Merklon (US) 6-3, 6-2, D van Scheppingen (Holl) bt A Calatrave (Sp) 6-4, 6-4, J Gimelstob (US) bt G Stafford (US) 6-2, 6-4; S Grosjean (Fr) bt D Flach (US) 6-0, 6-3; X Malisse (Bel) bt J van Lottum (Holl) 6-2, 6-2, F Squillari (Arg) bt A Pavel (Rom) 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, M Tillstrom (Swe) bt S Stolle (Aus) 6-4, 3-6, 6-1; R Agenor (Haiti) bt M Cross (Ger) 6-7, 6-4, 6-3. Second round: R Delgado (Par) bt V Spadea (US) 6-4, 6-2, M Tebbutt (Aus) bt Squillari 6-3, 5-3; D Sanguinetti (It) bt P McEnroe (US) 6-3, 6-3
ROME: Women's Italian Open: Second round: A Koumikova (Russ) bt B Paulus (Austria) 6-2, 6-2. Third round: S Williams (US) bt C Martinez (Sp) 6-2, 6-2; V Williams (US) bt A Fusai (Fr) 6-1, 6-1, S Tezlaf (Fr) bt M Seles (US) 6-2, 4-6, 7-5, L Raymond (US) bt R Dragomir (Rom) 6-4, 6-1
CARDIFF: Men's Futures Tournament: First round: B Ellwood (Aus) bt I Naumuller (Austria) 6-3, 6-4; T Spinks (GB) bt M Merry (Holl) 6-3, 6-4; D Draper (GB) bt M Hilton (GB) 6-4, 7-5; C Rochus (Bel) bt P Hand (GB) 7-5, 6-4, F Jonsson (Swe) bt N Watts (GB) 6-2, 6-0; R Cadart (Fr) bt W Winkler (Ger) 6-1, 6-1; J Davidson (GB) bt L Kirschner (Ger) 7-5, 6-3; C Bennett (GB) bt M Hromec (Slovakia) 7-5, 6-2; L Milligan (GB) bt G Cerruz (Fr) 6-2, 6-4, J Pequery (Fr) bt A Benus-Sado (Spi 7-5, 6-4, A Parmar (GB) bt A Foster (GB) 4-6, 6-2, 6-2; P Langvardi (Den) bt M Lee (GB) 6-0, 6-2; M Pastura (Arg) bt N Tamlgard (Swe) 6-1, 4-6, 6-2, D Sherwood (GB) bt D Nieves (Sp) 6-1, 5-7, 6-0; J Delgado (GB) bt R Hanger (GB) 6-2, 7-5, N Gould (GB) bt D Sapsford (GB) 6-2, 4-6, 6-2. Second round: Ellwood bt Spinks 3-6, 7-5, 6-3; Rochus bt Draper 6-2, 6-1, Cadart bt Jonsson 6-2, 6-1; Hromec bt J Davidson (GB) 6-1, 6-2, L Milligan (GB) bt J Pequery (Fr) 6-2, 2-6, 7-5, A Parmar (GB) bt P Langvardt (Den) 6-2, 6-3, M Pastura (Arg) bt D Sherwood (GB) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; N Gould (GB) bt J Delgado (GB) 6-3, 6-0

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance 20pts £370,714.00, 19 £797 25, 18 £15.15, 17 £3 65. Half-time result (max 20pts) £52 Four draws £253 85 Nine homes £519 50 Five aways £3 80
VERNONS: Treble chance 19pts £2,071 75, 18 £9 35, 17 £1 75.

Wednesday's late racing

Uttoxeter

Going: good

5.50 (3m 2f chl) 1, Red Rebel (Mr N Wilson, 4-6 fav), 2, Rusty Fellow (7-2), 3, Ladywyche Gate (5-1) 5 ran. 16l, 14l T Wallord Tote: £1.40; £1 10, £1 80 DF £1 90 CSF: £2.86.

6.20 (2m hdle) 1, Specialise (M Griffiths, 6-1) 2, Funky (7-2 fav), 3, Chipalata (20-1) 15 ran, NR: Pause For Thought, Plutus, Tudor Falcon 14l, hd, k Burke Tote: £7 30; £2 60, £1 30, £5 90. DF £33 70 Tno: £257 30 CSF £28 06. Tricast: £389 83.

6.50 (4m 2f chl) 1, The Malakanna (Mr B Pollock, 6-1), 2, Lord Relic (4-5 fav), 3, Kerries (9-1). 9 ran. NR: High Padre. 13l, 3½l Mrs C Bailey Tote: £6.60; £1 60, £1 10, £2.70 DF £3 60 Tno £18 50. CSF £14 45

7.20 (2m hdle) 1, Circus Star (R Johnson, 4-1); 2, Wesley's Lad (2-1 fav), 3, Diego (7-1) 6 ran NR: Easy Listening, Fairly Sharp 1½l, 1l D Nicholson Tote, £4 60, £2 00, £1.40. DF: £4 70 CSF £12.56. Tricast: £49 58

7.50 (2m 4f chl) 1, Glamangiltz (A P McCoy, 15-8 fav), 2, Dandie Imp (14-1), 3, Trouvaille (13-2) 10 ran. 3l, 1½l P Dalton Tote: £2.40; £1 30, £2.40, £2.10. DF: £23.70. Tno: £37 50 CSF: £25 87 Tricast: £133.77.

8.20 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Lakefield Leader (J R Kavanagh, 4-1) 2, Fernwoods Valley (33-1), 3, Crabapple Hill (7-4 fav) 12 ran NR: Bronhallow 11l, 1¾l N Henderson. Tote: £5.20, £2.20, £17 60, £1 50 DF: £245 10. Tno £105.30 CSF: £124 73
Placepot: £9.30 Quadpot: £4.70.

Wetherby

Going: good

6.05 (2m hdle) 1, Island Sanctuary (R Thornton, 5-4 fav), 2, Alcalell (8-1), 3, Freedom Chance (12-1), 13 ran 2l, 3l, D Nicholson. Tote: £2.40, £1 10, £1 80, £3.90 DF: £2.10. Tno: £12 00 CSF: £3 61

6.35 (3m 1f chl) 1, Organ Recital (M Brennan, 3-1), 2, Purevalue (7-4 fav), 3, Radical Choice (7-4 jt-fav) 7 ran NR Phar Echo 4l, 14l O Brennan Tote, £3.80, £1.30, £1 60 DF: £2 90 CSF: £8.44.

7.05 (2m 4f 110yd chl) 1, Philip's Woody (M A Fitzgerald, 5-1); 2, Pentlands Flyer (10-1), 3, Rustic Air (9-1). Corston Joker 5-2 fav 11 ran 6l, hd, N Henderson Tote: £5 30, £2 10, £2.40, £1.50 DF: £48 70 Tno: £82 80 CSF: £50.53. Tricast: £411.41.

7.35 (2m 4l 110yd hdle) 1, Auto Pilot (M A Fitzgerald, 12-1); 2, Memsahib Olesteem (7-1); 3, Orange Imp (7-1) The Snow Bum 9-2 fav 19 ran NR Golf Land 3l, 1l N Henderson Tote: £15 00; £4 50, £2.70, £3.20 DF £108 80 Tno: £186 80 CSF: £92 63

8.05 (2m ch) 1, Crosshot (R Supple, 9-4 fav), 2, Political Tower (100-30); 3, Storm Falcon (25-1) 8 ran. 2½l, 6l R McDonald Tote: £3.50; £1 40, £1 60, £3 60. DF: £4 30 CSF: £9 92. Tricast: £134 38.

8.35 (2m hdle) 1, Wynyard Knight (P Niven, 15-8 fav); 2, Oversman (6-1) 3, Glenugle (8-1), 8 ran 1¼l, 1¾l Mrs M Reveley Tote £2 60; £1.30, £2.20, £2.20 DF: £7 50 CSF £14 12. Tricast: £55 98
Placepot: £49.80 Quadpot: £75.10

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Benson and Hedges Cup
11.0, 50 overs
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Minor Counties
FORFAR: Scotland v Derbyshire
THE OVAL: Surrey v Somerset
SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of four: Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Northants; Worcester: Worcestershire v Northamptonshire. Final day of three: Bristol University: Gloucestershire v Durham. Old Trafford: Lancashire v Surrey. Stratford-upon-Avon CC: Warwickshire v Kent.

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
OTHER MATCH: Middlesbrough v Nottingham Forest (7.45).
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Greenwich v Erith (6.30)
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Cup: Final, second leg: West Ham (3) v Luton (4) (7.0).
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v Kidsgrove; Nantwich Town v Clitheroe
UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ford Sports v Wellingborough
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: North Ferriby v Hatfield Main
FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Arsenal v Bradford.

RUGBY LEAGUE

JJB Super League
London v Leeds (7.45) .....

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Badminton Horse Trials
HOCKEY: Women's quadrangular international tournament: Wales v France (12.0), Ireland v Italy (2.0) (both at University College, Dublin)
MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship (at Snetterton).
SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Belle Vue v Eastbourne (7.30) Speedway Star Cup: Oxford v Swindon (7.45). Premier League: Arena Essex v Newcastle (8.0); Edinburgh v Reading (7.30) Premier League team championship: Peterborough v Hull v Sheffield v Stoke (7.45).

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CRICKET

Wasim's fusillade helps to take heat off Atherton

BY BARNEY SPENDER

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Lancashire (2pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 58 runs

WASIM AKRAM, whose appointment as captain for this season was a matter of some contention at Old Trafford, started to repay his supporters for the faith they showed in him with a stunning 89 not out from 43 balls to keep Lancashire in with a decent shout of reaching the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup.

That they are not there already says much for the strength of group A, which now sees Lancashire level on six points with Leicestershire and Warwickshire.

Leicestershire should secure their place today when they play the Minor Counties, but the other place will depend on the matches to be played tomorrow. Of the two, Lancashire's match against a Northamptonshire side which has barely got out of first gear looks a marginally simpler task than Warwickshire's against Nottinghamshire. If it comes down to run-rate then it will be a tight affair, although Wasim's efforts will have done the Lancashire cause no harm at all. Coming to the crease in the 37th over, with Lancashire on 166 for five, Wasim spent ten overs in dawdling, relatively speaking, to 43, which included a swept six off Strang. At the start of the 48th over the score had moved on to 236.

That was the cue for Wasim's onslaught, which bordered on carnage, as he and Hegg blitzed 62 from the last three overs, 52 from the last two.

Wasim, with a savage combination of strength and timing, scored 56 of them from 14 balls. A push for two and two boundaries off Oram brought up his 50 from 35 balls but the next over from Wharf produced 26.

It began with a straight six that caused the workers in the building site at the Radcliffe Road end to scramble for their hard hats, embraced three boundaries and a two and ended with another six, this time into the car park beyond mid-wicket. Hegg took five off the first two balls of Oram's final over before Wasim weighed in again with three successive sixes, two of them into the top tier of the William Clarke Stand at mid-wicket.

His 14-ball sequence went 2, 4, 4, 0; 6, 2, 4, 4, 4, 6; 6, 6, 6, 2. In total he struck six sixes and eight fours in a breathtaking innings which, not surprisingly, won him the gold award and deflected the spotlight away from Atherton, who had departed in the second over of the innings.

All the brave talk this week from the powers that be about wanting to see him open the batting in the first Test against South Africa counts for little when the poor fellow can barely get the ball off the square. On this form he would struggle to open a church bazaar.

His top score this season is 33 not out, made against declaration bowling in the championship match against Sussex and his next best is 28 against the Minor Counties in the Benson and Hedges. Hardly the right preparation to take on the likes of Donald, Pollock and the rest.

This time he made just one, a half-push forward to Bowen, resulting in a successful leg-before shout and a pensive, almost funereal walk back to the pavilion. The first Test against the South Africans must seem a long way away.

Crawley, who was taking guard by the time Atherton reached the pavilion steps, enjoyed an early reprieve when Gallian, whose departure from Lancashire at the end of last season was due in part to the appointment of Wasim as captain, grassed a chance at second slip after he had made only three.

He went on to anchor the innings with 81 from 114 as Flintoff underlined his potential with a delightful 46, which included two wonderful pick-ups for six.

Dowman, who made 82, and Pollard got the Nottinghamshire reply off to a brisk start to the extent that, up to the 30-over mark, had rain fallen and the Duckworth-Lewis system come into play, then they would have won with something to spare. But the sun shined on . . .

LAURENCE GRIFFITHS / ALLSPORT



Bowen celebrates his dismissal of Atherton

LEE SMITH



Foster, the Durham all-rounder, fails to stop a drive by Solanki, the Worcestershire opening batsman

Resolute Durham stand firm

BY RICHARD HOBSON

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Worcestershire won toss): Durham (2pts) beat Worcestershire by two wickets

THERE are times when the description "first-class" has seemed a misnomer as far as Durham are concerned. Yesterday, just when it appeared they had snatched defeat from the jaws of victory once again, the ninth-wicket pair of Melvyn Betts and Neil Killeen, both born and bred in nearby pit villages, retrieved a winning situation.

Their unbroken partnership of 50 ensured that Durham met the target of 162 to qualify for the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup for the first time. It also means that Yorkshire go through from group B, with the teams meeting at Headingley tomorrow for the right to home advantage in the knockout stage.

One trusts certain batsmen gave Betts and Killeen the pats on the back they deserved. Jimmy Daley had been pulled out of a second XI game at Bristol on Wednesday night, having scored a hundred against Gloucestershire, to join the squad. Not selected, he must have wondered what more he could do, as a succession of players surrendered their wickets.

In contrast, Durham had bowled extremely well, in helpful conditions, because they put the ball in the right area consistently. While the pitch was far from dangerous it discouraged the stroke-makers and a strong cross-wind assisted swing. The pulsating climax might have been avoided if Speight, the Durham wicketkeeper, held a sharp chance offered by Sheriyar diving to his right when Worcestershire were 126 for nine. Sheriyar and Richard Illingworth took the last-wicket stand to 48, which underlined the paucity of the earlier contributions and ensured a semblance of a contest.

Roseberry and Morris, with varying degrees of blame, fell to Newport with the score on 17, the first to a blinding catch at mid-wicket by Weston and the latter driving loosely. Then, Speak edged a forcing stroke into the midriff of Hick. The situation appeared tailor-made for Boon, yet, just as he had against Scotland the day before, the Durham captain perished cutting a wide ball as it drifted away. Two overs later, the score became 50 for five as Lewis was bowled off stump by Newport.

Foster, promoted to open the innings, watched powerless from the non-striker's end. He desperately required support because, after being dropped on ten at slip by Lampitt, he had adjusted his range to suit conditions. Speight, who helped him to add 31, failed to check a drive and presented a chance for Rhodes, but Foster completed a sound half-century.

However, after scoring 54 from 77 balls, he found himself yorked by Leatherdale's second ball, and four balls later Boiling was bowled. At 112 for eight, Worcestershire held the initiative. But Betts and Killeen began to work the ball through the off side as the discipline of the medium-pace bowlers deserted them.

The crowd were content merely to protect their bodies from the cold hitherto. Now, they began to cheer each run in encouragement. Killeen survived a chance when Sheriyar rejoined the attack, scooping a shot between the bowler and mid-on but, like Betts, managed to hold firm.

Worcestershire wickets had fallen steadily once Betts split the opening partnership in the thirteenth over. Hick, watched by Graham Gooch, was caught at slip attempting to steer Wood and Moody had his middle stump uprooted to become the first of Foster's three victims. As an indication of their difficulties, Solanki, ordinarily a free spirit, took 24 overs in compiling 25 runs.

Fraser helps ruin Hussain's day

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

CHELMSFORD (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (2pts) beat Essex by four wickets

MIDDLESEX claimed a home tie in the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Cup after this victory, their third in a row, put them top of their group. After restricting Essex to 233 for nine they benefited from the home side's misfortune as two bowlers, Such and Cowan, left the field with injuries.

All day long there was a touch of *Emergency Ward 10* in the air. Alastair Fraser, Angus's younger brother, won the gold award for his four wickets, returning to take them after clattering into the advertising boards, and hurting his right leg. Essex might still join their conquerors in the quarter-finals. To deprive them of a place, Glamorgan must beat Middlesex heavily in Cardiff tomorrow.

During the middle stages of their reply, Middlesex appeared intent on glad-handing the game back to Essex. Ramprakash allowed himself to be run out, when Peters hit the stumps full-on from point, and Shah was leg-before to Grayson eight runs later, before Pooley and Weekes made sure that they would not squander the opportunities the bowlers had earned.

This was a day for Fraser A. G. J. rather than Fraser A. R. C. Two years junior to Angus at 30, with a nice, flowing action, he has rejoined Middlesex this summer on a pay-for-play basis in one-day cricket, and he earned his beer money here by taking four prime wickets.

Alastair also played for Essex in his professional days, which ended six years ago, so this is a ground with which he is familiar. His first wicket was Irani, caught behind, and he owed the next three to moderate strokeplay. Grayson drove feebly to short extra cover and, worse by far, Rollins and Peters fell to catches in the deep at a time, with more than 12 overs left, that big shots were not really needed.

Robinson, the maker of three hundreds in one-day cricket so far this season, failed for once, caught behind in the first over. Law, the brilliant Queenslander, attacked the bowling in his customary manner before he was defeated by one that came back into him — a good wicket for Johnson. An hour or two of Law and most teams are up against it.

Hussain batted through it all, going to his half-century in 60 balls, and needing 61 more for his century. He did not always time the ball as he might have liked, and he was not always prepared to use the whole bat, preferring to nurdle behind point, but he found some fluency as his innings progressed.

Oddly, in view of the fact that he initially came to public attention by making a hundred for the Combined Universities in a Benson and Hedges quarter-final at Taunton nine years ago, Hussain had never made a century in this competition for his county. He was searching for a tenth boundary when he lifted Ramprakash to long-on.

For the time being, then, Ramprakash has the bragging rights over his pal. If Hussain says: "I made a ton," the Middlesex captain can reply: "But I got you out second ball." The Essex innings had begun to peter out by then. Brown held a natty catch, high and right-handed, to remove Cowan, and though Williams landed a few blows, the Essex score was not a daunting one.

Johnson, switched to No 3, partially justified his promotion when Middlesex set off. Brown and Ramprakash appeared to be in no trouble until one cut uppishly to third man and the other ran himself out. Pooley, missed by Williams at long-on when he was 14, kept the ship afloat with some strong strokes to leg and Weekes, feasting on some wayward stuff from Williams, saw them through with seven balls to spare.



Hussain: century in vain

Wells runneth over to set Kent on a victory stroll

BY JACK BAILEY

SOUTHAMPTON (Hampshire won toss): Kent (2pts) beat Hampshire by 125 runs

A FINE innings by Allan Wells and a scarcely less worthy one from Trevor Ward formed the cornerstone of a strolling victory for Kent that could have been a great deal more arduous had these two not first survived, then cut loose on a pitch helping the seam bowlers throughout the day.

As it was, Hampshire were pushed to the limits of the hunt once Wells had settled, accelerated and finally cut and carved his way to an undefeated 111 from 106 balls, seeing Kent towards a total of 246, which was always way beyond Hampshire's reach. Wells's century was not only of the highest class, admirably paced and chanceless: it was his highest score for Kent in any class of cricket and his highest for either of his two counties in the Benson and Hedges Cup.

On a day of firsts, it was, even more surprisingly, the first time such a marvellous striker of the ball had received the gold award. His partnership with Ward of 112 in 24 overs for the third wicket was crucial to Kent's cause.

Had there been any doubt of the real worth of the Wells-Ward axis, it would have been quickly dispelled by the way Kent's bowlers scythed through Hampshire's batting. Ben Phillips — what a find he has been — shared six wickets equally with Dean Headley; Carl Hooper played his usual teasing, beguiling part with the ball and, long before the end, Hampshire's chances of victory had faded beyond recall.

Adrian Aymes, with his undefeated 46, battled stubbornly in a cause long lost, but his innings was of little more than academic interest, following the loss of five Hampshire wickets for 33 runs, all five going while only 15 were gathered in eight overs. But at least Aymes prevented a debacle and gave the crowd the sense of having witnessed nearly a full day's cricket.

When Hampshire won the toss and, having decided to field, pegged back Kent to 120 for two in the first 30 overs, matters had by no means gone all Kent's way. It had been hard going against John Stephenson, Peter Hartley and, above all, Kevan James. But Hampshire's overseas fast bowler, Nixon McLean, had been too profligate for any type of cricket, yielding 65 runs from his seven overs and easing the pressure as Kent's early batsmen struggled.

Ward left to the persevering James after facing 114 balls for his 60. By then, Wells was in command. Scarcely a false stroke tarnished his century, made from 103 balls with 13 fours, and the match was as good as won.

It remained for Phillips to impress with movement away from the bat and accuracy, and for Marsh to confirm that, along with Aymes, he ranks high in the list of county wicketkeepers uncapped by England.

Trinity student has talent to succeed on wider stage

Simon Wilde believes that more Irishmen may graduate to the county game in years to come

The Ireland cricket team contains a predictably delightful mix of eccentric, committed amateurs. Derek Heasley devotes much of his time to fighting fires on Belfast's Ormeau Road and pulling the innings out of the flames from the lower order. He also bowls canny medium-pacers and in the Benson and Hedges Cup dispatched the captains of Glamorgan and Essex and conceded second-best to Middlesex's only after a scrap.

Then there is Jason Molins, who juggles first-year studies at Oxford with cricket, which he learnt at Carlisle, the only Jewish club in Dublin, where doubtless he was asked: "Are you a Protestant Jew or a Catholic Jew?" His family is heavily involved in the game and his brother, Greg, was a member of the Ireland side that beat Middlesex last year. His mother attends many matches and his uncle is a national selector.

But if Ireland are to become a force, they need core players to turn professional. It is the only way they will eradicate the technical and mental flaws that are an amateur's hallmarks.

Few Irishmen cross the water to play county cricket. Middlesex gave games to Mark Cohen and Dermott Monteith in the early 1980s but neither made an impact. But, as Irish cricket gathers strength, things are changing. Mark Patterson, a fast bowler from Belfast, is on Surrey's staff and his brother, Andy, a wicketkeeper, joins him later this summer.

The candidate most likely to succeed professionally is Edmund Joyce, 19, an exciting batting prospect in anyone's book. The youngest player in the Ireland side, he bats so effortlessly that he has risen through the ranks with barely a stutter.

Against Glamorgan and Essex this week, he got his feet well under the table and a more experienced player might have pushed on and made many more runs. But he had no difficulty with Waqar Younis. Now, the majority of his five sons and four daughters play.

Edmunds, a left-hander who represents Dublin's Merrion club, views his success pragmatically. "In some ways, playing for Ireland is easy because there is no great pressure," he said.

"Against the counties, you do not have much to lose going in at 20 for three. I know some people think of me as Ireland's great hope, but that does not concern me, either. I want to give the game a go."

He may not have to wait too long. After Ireland's match with Middlesex at Lord's on Tuesday, in which Joyce was unlucky to be run out cheaply, Ian Gould, the county's second XI coach, sought him out in the public house alongside the ground and offered him two months of cricket after Joyce finishes his first year at Trinity College, Dublin, where he studies economics.

Middlesex, who clearly like the Irish connection, gave Joyce a short trial last summer, when he appeared, and did well, in a four-day match against Northamptonshire — once he found the ground.

"I was told it was at Uxbridge, but when I arrived there and asked for directions at the station, they sent me to the wrong ground," he said.

"Having left my sister's house in Surrey at 7am, I reached my destination five minutes before the start. Fortunately, Middlesex seemed to understand."

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Benson and Hedges Cup

Durham v Worcestershire

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Worcestershire won toss) Durham (2pts) beat Worcestershire by two wickets

WORCESTERSHIRE

W P C Weston lbw b Betts	10
V S Solanki c Boiling b Foster	25
G A Hick c Speight b Wood	7
*T M Moody b Foster	7
G R Haynes c Wood b Foster	16
D A Leatherdale run out	1
S R Lampitt b Boiling	9
†S J Rhodes b Killeen	11
R K Illingworth not out	35
P J Newport c Boon b Killeen	0
A Sheriyar b Betts	16
Extras (lb 17, w 4, nb 4)	25
Total (49.1 overs)	161

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24, 2-40, 3-58, 4-61, 5-63, 6-90, 7-90, 8-111, 9-113.

BOWLING: Betts 9-1-26-2, Killeen 10-3-28-2, Foster 10-0-26-3, Wood 10-2-30-1, Boiling 10-0-34-1

DURHAM

M A Roseberry c Weston b Newport	7
M J Foster b Leatherdale	54
J E Morris c Leatherdale b Newport	0
N J Speak c Hick b Sheriyar	2
*D C Boon c Rhodes b Newport	1
J J B Lewis b Newport	4
†M P Speight c Rhodes b Lampitt	12
J Boiling b Leatherdale	9
M M Betts not out	20
N Killeen not out	24
Extras (lb 4, w 3, nb 22)	29
Total (8 wkts, 40.5 overs)	182

J Wood did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-17, 3-34, 4-35, 5-50, 6-81, 7-111, 8-112

BOWLING: Newport 10-1-38-4; Sheriyar 10-1-47-1; Lampitt 5-0-28-1; Moody 8-0-29-0, Illingworth 3-2-1-0; Leatherdale 4.5-1-18-2

Gold award: M J Foster.

Umpires: N T Plews and G Sharp.

Essex v Middlesex

CHELMSFORD (Middlesex won toss): Middlesex (2pts) beat Essex by four wickets

ESSEX

D D J Robinson c Weekes b A R C Fraser	0
S G Law b Johnson	37
*N Hussain c Hewitt b Ramprakash	101
R C Irani c Brown b A G J Fraser	11
A P Grayson c Shah b A G J Fraser	25
†R J Rollins c Ramprakash b A G J Fraser	5
S D Peters c Nash b A G J Fraser	1
A P Cowan c Brown b A R C Fraser	13
M C Ilott c and b Ramprakash	4
N F Williams not out	20
P M Such not out	8
Extras (lb 4, w 4)	8
Total (9 wkts, 50 overs)	233

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-57, 3-101, 4-148, 5-161, 6-166, 7-197, 8-199, 9-219

BOWLING: A R C Fraser 10-0-40-2; Hewitt 9-0-46-0; Johnson 10-0-55-1; A G J Fraser 10-0-45-4, Weekes 10-1-36-0; Ramprakash 2-0-7-2

MIDDLESEX

†K R Brown c and b Irani	39
J L Langer c Law b Ilott	12
R L Johnson c Such b Ilott	24
*M R Ramprakash run out	39
J C Pooley c Hussain b Williams	48
O A Shah lbw b Grayson	3
P N Weekes not out	37
D C Nash not out	9
Extras (lb 10, w 9, nb 4)	23
Total (6 wkts, 48.5 overs)	234

J P Hewitt, A R C Fraser and A G J Fraser did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-63, 3-116, 4-140, 5-148, 6-198.

BOWLING: Ilott 9.5-0-45-2; Cowan 8-0-49-0; Williams 10-0-60-1; Such 4 3-1-6-0; Irani 7-0-29-1; Grayson 8.3-0-35-1.

Gold award: A G J Fraser.

Umpires: T E Jesty and J H Hampshire.

Hampshire v Kent

SOUTHAMPTON (Hampshire won toss): Kent (2pts) beat Hampshire by 125 runs

KENT

T R Ward b James	60
M J Walker c Stephenson b Hartley	7
C L Hooper lbw b James	14
A P Wells not out	111
M A Ealham c Udal b Stephenson	4
G R Cowdrey c Aymes b Hartley	6
M V Fleming c White b Stephenson	5
*†S A Marsh not out	17
Extras (lb 9, w 13)	22
Total (6 wkts, 50 overs)	246

B J Phillips, D W Headley and M M Patel did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-40, 3-152, 4-161, 5-183, 6-193

BOWLING: McLean 9-0-65-0; Hartley 10-3-37-2, James 10-0-28-2, Stephenson 10-0-51-2, Udal 8-0-34-0, Mascarenhas 3-0-22-0.

HAMPSHIRE

G W White lbw b Phillips	1
J P Stephenson c Fleming b Headley	15
*R A Smith c Marsh b Headley	1
M Keech c Marsh b Phillips	1
J S Laney c Hooper b Phillips	6
†A N Aymes not out	46
K D James c Phillips b Fleming	24
A D Mascarenhas b Hooper	3
S D Udal c Hooper b Headley	6
P J Hartley c Marsh b Hooper	4
N A M McLean c Walker b Fleming	1
Extras (lb 7, w 2, nb 4)	13
Total (37.4 overs)	121

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-21, 3-22, 4-22, 5-33, 6-73, 7-81, 8-100, 9-105

BOWLING: Headley 10-2-33-3, Phillips 8-2-13-3; Patel 5-0-21-0; Hooper 10-0-28-2, Fleming 4.4-0-19-2.

Gold award: A P Wells.

Umpires: G I Burgess and D R Shepherd

Nottinghamshire v Lancashire

TRENT BRIDGE (Nottinghamshire won toss): Lancashire (2pts) beat Nottinghamshire by 58 runs

LANCASHIRE

M A Atherton lbw b Bowen	1
A Flintoff c Oram b Wharf	46
J P Crawley c Dowman b Oram	81
N H Fairbrother c Strang b Gallian	17
G D Lloyd run out	24
*Wasim Akram not out	89
†W K Hegg not out	36
Extras (b 1, lb 6, w 3)	10
Total (5 wkts, 50 overs)	298

I D Austin, G Yates, G Chapple and P J Martin did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-95, 3-125, 4-168, 5-175

BOWLING: Oram 10-0-67-1, Bowen 10-1-41-1, Wharf 10-0-81-1, Gallian 10-0-55-1, Strang 10-1-47-0

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

P R Pollard c Hegg b Wasim	31
M P Dowman c Crawley b Chapple	82
J E R Gallian c Wasim b Yates	41
*P Johnson c Chapple b Yates	17
R T Robinson c Wasim b Chapple	8
G F Archer b Austin	15
A G Wharf c Lloyd b Chapple	10
P A Strang c Atherton b Martin	8
†W M Noon b Wasim	0
M N Bowen b Austin	9
A R Oram not out	1
Extras (lb 10, w 3, nb 4)	17
Total (48.1 overs)	240

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-51, 2-147, 3-177, 4-188, 5-189, 6-203, 7-217, 8-225, 9-225

BOWLING: Martin 10-0-53-1; Austin 9.1-0-33-2, Wasim Akram 9-1-50-2, Yates 10-0-48-2, Chapple 10-0-46-3.

Gold award: Wasim Akram

Umpires: R Julian and J W Lloyds

Group A

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	6	20.24
Lancashire	4	3	1	0	6	15.62
Leicestershire	4	3	1	0	6	7.09
Notts	4	2	2	0	4	2.38
Northants	4	1	3	0	2	-5.87
Minor Counties	4	0	4	0	0	-32.83

Group B

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Yorkshire	3	3	0	0	6	8.75
Durham	3	3	0	0	6	7.05
Worcestershire	4	2	2	0	4	3.86
Derbyshire	3	0	3	0	0	-5.39
Scotland	3	0	3	0	0	-13.81

Group C

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Surrey	4	4	0	0	8	15.66
Kent	4	2	1	1	5	13.12
Somerset	4	2	1	1	5	0.21
Gloucs	4	1	3	0	2	0.12
British Univs	4	1	3	0	2	-11.67
Hampshire	4	1	3	0	2	-16.39

Group D

	P	W	L	NR	Pts	RR
Middlesex	3	3	0	0	6	2.82
Essex	4	2	1	1	5	19.48
Glamorgan	3	1	1	1	3	18.66
Sussex	3	1	2	0	2	-1.53
Ireland	3	0	3	0	0	-33.29

CORRECTION: Benson and Hedges Cup: Durham v Scotland (played May 6): Scotland innings: R A Parsons c Speight b Killeen 15, Fall of wickets 3-194, 4-195, 5-195, 6-205, not as previously published

هكذا من الأصل

GOLF: BITTERNESS LINGERS FOR SPANIARD LEFT OUT OF RYDER CUP TEAM BY HIS COUNTRYMAN

Martin happy to provide own feast

FROM MEL WEBB
IN SANTA PONSA, MAJORCA

SEVEN months on, and the pain still goes deep. Miguel Angel Martin, controversially omitted from the Europe Ryder Cup team last September, still cannot bring himself to sit at the same lunch table of he who did not want him at Valderrama. Severiano Ballesteros is that man, and it is obvious that, barely under the surface, Martin's resentment burns on.

Ballesteros, the Europe captain, referred to Martin in scathing terms after his compatriot fell victim to a wrist injury at the end of last summer. Martin had an operation and asked for time to prove his fitness to play in what would have been his first Ryder Cup match: he was denied it, with Ballesteros saying: "That little man? He was not welcome before, and he is not welcome now."

In the end, José Maria Olazábal, as the next player in the qualifying table, was brought into the team in Martin's place and it was only after some acrimonious negotiations that Martin was brought to Valderrama, given full Ryder Cup status, said he was going to stay but changed his mind and went home to Madrid.

In the light of Europe's victory over the United States, the matter slid into obscurity only to surface again this week when Martin, in common with the other Spaniards involved in the Ryder Cup — Ballesteros, Miguel Angel Jiménez, Ignacio Garrido and Olazábal — was invited to take lunch with José María Aznar, the Spanish prime minister, at La Moncloa, his palace in Madrid. Martin sent his regrets and stayed away.

He missed out on Serrano ham, paella, lamb chops, chocolate mousse, coffee and red wine from Ribera del Duero, but had the small satisfaction of not being forced to dine alongside Ballesteros. Yesterday, Martin was still resolutely unwilling to talk about his absence from the lunch, choosing instead to maintain his dignified silence.

He was, however, much happier to talk about his golf in the first round of the Balearic Open here, and so he should have been for reasons that clearly went beyond the fact that he had scored 67, five under par, to take an early lead alongside Santiago Luña. He did not talk about, he would not talk about it, but in spite of himself he cannot but have felt a small satisfaction that while he was taking on, and beating, the big Santa Ponsa course, Ballesteros, playing in the group immediately behind him, was scoring a mediocre 75.

Martin assembled his score while suffering from the handicaps of continued pain from the injured wrist — it still hurts when he hits shorter shots but not, strangely, when he uses a full swing — and the fact that he is suffering from a kidney stone. He had spent the previous day in a local hospital and had been told to soak in a hot bath for an hour and drink plenty of water.

His conspicuous water consumption meant that during his round he was constantly in search of a comfort station, but in between was able to keep his mind sufficiently off the problems to the south of his belt buckle and on the challenge of the golf course. He had six birdies and a solitary bogey to help to push health matters to the back of his mind.

He had to be asked, although nobody really wanted to. Did it make the score feel even better that he was playing such good golf immediately in front of his nemesis? He must have been tempted to answer — the smallest nod of the head would have spoken more eloquently that a thousand words.

But Martin was having none of it; he smiled enigmatically and kept his counsel, safe behind his 67. He has said he has forgiven the indignity to which he was subjected. What he has not done, clearly, is forgotten.

ALLSPORT



Martin plays a recovery shot from out of the trees during his first round of 67 in the Balearic Open at Santa Ponsa yesterday

SCORES

EARLY FIRST-ROUND LEADERS (GB and Ire unless stated), 67: M A Martin (Sp), S Luña (Sp) 68: M Reale (It), A McKenna, J Wade 69: J Rivero (Sp), I Garner (Sp) 70: S Bennett, J Bickerton, A Wall, D Borrego (Sp) 71: G Clark, R Lee, M Long, R Johnson, P McGinley, A Cabrera (Arg) 72: B Hafthorsson (Ice), R Burns, M Fionoli (It), T Linhart (Sp), J Robson, M Mackenzie, B Langer (Ger), D Hospital (Sp), A Binaghi (It), A Forsbrand (Swe) 73: L Carbonetti (Arg), F Cea (Sp), A Salto (Sp), J Rask (Swe), G Emerson, M Goggin (Aus), D Westermark (Swe), H P Thuel (Ger), R Wessels (SA), A Hansen (Den), M Davis, M Pinero (Sp). 74: S Alker (NZ), S Richardson, M Gortana (It), M Mouland, N Tomon (Japan), J Ramsay (Fri), J Garcia (Sp), T Muñoz (Sp)

RUGBY UNION

Pienaar wins his fitness fight to play in cup final

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

FRANCOIS PIENAAR, the South Africa World Cup-winning captain, will play for Saracens in the Tetley's Bitter Cup final against Wasps at Twickenham tomorrow. Fears that a damaged hamstring might keep him out have receded with every training session and Pienaar will take his place in the back row, despite acknowledging that he is not 100 per cent fit.

"He came bouncing off the training field on Wednesday, feeling very happy, and he came through a lighter session yesterday with no trouble," Mike Scott, the Saracens team manager, said. "Perhaps he was being overly pessimistic earlier in the week."

The South African desperately wants to play as a mark of achievement for his English club, though Pienaar would be less than human if he did not regard this match as justifying his move from his native country, where rugby is undergoing such travails. He, though, has more to give Saracens, whereas Michael Lynagh and Philippe Sella are reaching the end of their respective careers.

How appropriate that they should have one of the great stages upon which to bow out of competition and how valuable the experience will be for young English players such as Ben Sturnham and George Chuter to appear alongside them. Sturnham, 24, has seized the opportunity given him by Richard Hill's back injury and, like Chuter, has attained England A honours.

Chuter, 21, emerged from Old Mid-Whitgiftians to take over as hooker when Greg Botterman required a groin operation. Now Botterman has to make do as a replacement, alongside the Ireland wing, Richard Wallace, though there is no place for Brendan Reidy, the Samoan prop ruled out by a calf injury against Harlequins.

Marcus Olsen, who was a replacement for Bath in the 1995 cup final against Wasps, occupies the same situation behind Kyran Bracken — another injury worry about whom Saracens will cross their fingers — but it is an indication of change within the game that Wasps will start with only two survivors of that final: Lawrence Dallaglio and Darren Molloy. Ian Dunston and Mike White both played on the losing side against Bath and may yet emerge from the replacements but their places have gone, respectively, to Paul Volley and Will Green.

Selection will not have been easy for Wasps. Apart from the debate over No 7, they will have pondered the raw pace of Paul Sampson on the wing long and hard before opting for the all-round footballing ability of Lawrence Scrase on the left and the proven ability of Shane Roiser on the right. Nick Greenstock's shoulder injury has also allowed Mark Denney, 23, who scored for Cambridge in their win over Oxford in the University Match last December, to play at centre. Volley, still only 26, has been at Wasps for ten years but has hammered down his claims only in the last three weeks. His robust style has carried him past the experienced White; it would be a surprise, though, if White does not make an appearance at some stage and Twickenham will rise to him if he does.

They will also respond to Gareth Rees, who played in the first Wasps team to appear in a Twickenham cup final, against Bath in 1986. The ageless Canadian, third-highest points scorer in the first division (behind Lynagh and Mark Mapletoft, of Gloucester), was fly half that day and now, from full back, he is goalkicker, organiser and motivator supreme.

☐ Keith Wood, the Harlequins hooker and captain, who asked not to be considered for Ireland's tour to South Africa, will join the tour for the last five matches. Wood wanted to rest but changed his mind yesterday when Ross Nesdale, the Newcastle hooker, withdrew because he needs a knee operation.

TEAMS

SARACENS: G Johnson, B Daniel, P Sella, S Ravenscroft, R Constable, M Lynagh, K Bracken, R Grau, G Chuter, P Wallace, P Johns, D Grewcock, B Stumham, F Pienaar, A Diprose. Replacements: M Olsen, A Lee, M Singer, R Wallace, A Diver, G Botterman, A Bennett.
WASPS: G Rees, S Roser, M Denney, R Henderson, L Scrase; A King, M Friday, D Molloy, S Mitchell, W Green, M Weedon, S Shaw, J Worsley, P Volley, L Dallaglio. Replacements: A Gomarsall, P Sampson, I Dunston, T Leota, A Black, M White, A Reed

Date clash devalues precious trophy

JOHN HOPKINS



Golf Commentary

As you walk into the main room of the clubhouse at The Berkshire golf club in Ascot, the eye is caught first by the view out over the Blue course, a rash of colours at this time of year, and then by the handsome wooden honours boards that line the walls. One board lists every winner of The Berkshire Trophy. It is a who's who of English amateur golf.

In 1947 Laddie Lucas, who died recently and whose memorial service is on May 28, was the first winner. Philip Scrutton set the so far unmatched record of successive victories in 1950, 1951 and 1952. Then came Michael Bonallack in 1957, Peter Oosterhuis in 1966, Nick Faldo in 1975 and Sandy Lyle in 1977. Not bad names.

If the importance of a competition is measured by the size of its trophy, then The Berkshire is one of the game's greatest. It is as well that Mark Hilton, who won it last Sunday, has the proportions of a second-row forward. At 6ft 7in he was about the only competitor strong enough to lift it. The tall silver cup is about the size of the trophy for the World Matchplay Championship into which Ian Woosnam's two-year-old son fell during the prize-giving ceremony in 1987.

Sadly, though the trophy is as lustrous as ever, the competition is a shadow of its former self. Unless something is done, one of the premier amateur events in Britain will soon be of no significance.

Perhaps it is necessary here to emphasise why this is a shame for the club, for the competition and for English amateur golf. After all, to some eyes everything in golf is coming up roses, isn't it?

Europe has won the past two Ryder Cup matches. The game is racing towards the millennium on the shoulders of a group of the most exciting young players to emerge for ages. According to the authoritative Golf Research Group, green fees and subscriptions are up over previous years, the number of clubs falling into receivership is declining, there is a strong demand for golf-related property. In the grand scheme of things, does amateur golf matter?

The amateur game is the heartbeat of golf; without amateurs, golf has no pulse. Amateur golf is often more fun and less formal than the professional game. Without its perpetual presence driving the game on at a lower level, there would be no professional game at a higher level. Just about every professional has been an amateur.

Which brings us back to the decline of The Berkshire Trophy. For years, it and the Lytham Trophy existed in their own right, two outstanding stroke-play events for amateurs. Then the English Golf Union asked Lytham to move its competition to a date that clashed with The Berkshire. It was expected normal service would soon be resumed. It has not. For years now, these two events have clashed and neither club has been able to find another suitable date. More significantly, the English Golf Union has done little to resolve the breach.

Of the two events, the Lytham is the more important. It attracts by far the better field. Last weekend, for example, the Irish, the Scots, including Craig Watson, the Amateur champion, and most of the leading England and Wales players were in Lancashire, where they were joined by the Germany squad, who had hitherto competed in The Berkshire. There was, relatively speaking, no one at The Berkshire except for Gary Wolstenholme, the Walker Cup player.

"I know 20 guys who would like to compete here if there were not a clash," Wolstenholme said in the clubhouse at The Berkshire. "I would be up there if I was not defending my title. It's a three-line whip. I have to remember that my performance here counts towards the Scrutton Jug."

Wolstenholme will write a letter to the English Golf Union next week in an attempt to break the apparent deadlock. "I shall suggest four dates to play this event." Wolstenholme said. "They won't inconvenience the members too much. Something has to be done. This clash [of dates] is killing this event — even though it is an official EGU event."

More power to his elbow. At least someone is prepared to try to resolve one of the silliest clashes in amateur golf.

SAILING: WILDLIFE KEEPS ROUND THE WORLD SKIPPERS ON THEIR GUARD

Whitbread race boats have whale of a time

SHARKS and whales are getting in the way of the Whitbread Round the World Race fleet as the boats power their way northeast towards the Grand Banks of Newfoundland (Edward Gorman writes). The racing on the eighth leg, from Annapolis to La Rochelle, continues to be unpredictable, with the Gulf Stream proving intermittent and the wind and current fluctuating continuously.

The two EF boats, Paul Cayard's *EF Language* and Christine Guillou's *EF Education*, have been enjoying close encounters with wildlife. The all-female crew, who were in an impressive fourth position, got a fright from a bleeding whale which swam alongside. "When it came to the back of the boat," Guillou said, "it made a violent splash with its tail which made two crew members who were sitting on the sail bags lose their breath."

On *EF Language*, Cayard and his crew managed to impale a shark on the leading edge of their keel in the middle of the night. "We had to stop and back down to remove the beast," Cayard said. The fleet is now spread over 115 miles from north to south with the two leading yachts, *Merit Cup* and *Toshiba*, sailing a middling course. In last position, 55 miles astern of *Merit*, is *Swedish Match*, the most northerly yacht. The two most southerly boats are *Silk Cut*, skippered by Lawrie Smith, and *Chessie Racing*, skippered by John Kostecki, occupying seventh and eighth places respectively.

Smith bounces back to confirm Melges win

ROB SMITH, sailing with Freddie Blencke, Ben Cooke and Paul Strzelecki, produced the most consistent sailing in the Commodore Ferries Melges 24 national championships in Guernsey to take the title convincingly yesterday.

In a ten-race series sailed off St Peter Port, which started with a light-air day before fresh conditions took hold in the later stages, Smith, on *Henri Lloyd Rapid Breathing*, was rarely out of the top five. In all, he won five races and was second in another.

This was all the more impressive because Smith's was one of two boats to lose its mast in winds of more than 30 knots on the second day of the championship. He came back from that to win three races in a row before finishing the last race in thirteenth position when he secured overall victory by sailing his nearest rival, Dave Hall, in *Hyde Between the Sheets*, down the fleet. The margin of victory was 13 points with Dave Clark and Tony Weatherall in *Snickers Original Workwear* in second place, Sarl Fiotte, in *CMOC*, a further five points back in third. Hall was fourth.

"We lost the rig at the end of day two," Smith, who is producing the best form of his Melges career, said. "I think for the crew to recover and pull back after that is phenomenal really. It was a severe blow at the time, but we just got on with it and sorted it."



SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Begin Bridge with The Times:
Lesson 4 – Tricks: trumping and discarding

Last week I started discussing the *trick*, the unit by which the play phase of bridge proceeds. The winner of the trick leads to the next trick. Say in the example below South had won the previous trick and now decides to lead the queen of diamonds.

North
♢ 6
West ♢ 4 East ♢ ?
South
♢ Q led

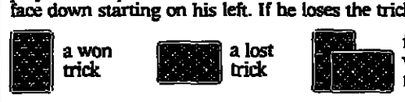
Play proceeds clockwise. West plays the four of diamonds and North the six.

East is still to play, and he has no diamonds. If he had a diamond, he would have to play it (failing to do so would be *revoking*, which incurs blood-curdling penalties); but if he has no diamond he can play what he likes. If the contract is a "suit" contract, one of the four suits will be *trumps*. That suit has a status higher than the other three suits – any card in it will beat any card in the other three suits (referred to as the *plain* suits). In the example above, if clubs were trumps and East had no diamonds he could play the two of clubs on the queen of diamonds, and would win the trick. That is known as *trumping* or *ruffing*.

But some contracts are played in "No-trumps". In that case, no suit has a preferential rank: the only way East could win this trick would be to play a diamond higher than the queen (i.e. the ace or king), and as I have assumed he has no diamonds, he cannot do that. He must play a card of some other suit (known as *discarding*), and South wins the trick.

There are two methods of keeping track of how many tricks have been won by each side. The more common way in casual games is for one of the partners to gather together the cards of a trick his side has won and stack them face down in front of him. He should keep each trick separate, so that the other players at the table can see how many tricks his side has won.

The other method, which is used in tournaments and which I recommend for those learning the game, is for each player to keep his own cards in front of him, stacking them face down starting on his left. If he loses the trick he puts the



a won trick — a lost trick — first trick won, second trick lost

card with the long axis parallel to the table, and if he wins the trick he puts the long axis perpendicular to the table. The advantage of this method is that you can later reconstruct how the play went.

☐ The EBU Spring Foursomes, held at Stratford-upon-Avon, was won by Tredinnick (Stuart and Gerald Tredinnick, Neil Rosen, Andrew McIntosh) who beat Mossop (David Mossop, Geir Helgemo, Tony Forrester, Jason and Justin Hackett, Tom Townsend) in the final by 47 IMPs.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PAILOU
a. A straw hat
b. A lobster stew
c. An ornamental gateway

RECIBIR
a. Receiving bull
b. Presentation at court
c. Revictualling

PLOTZ
a. Conspiracies
b. To flop
c. Turnip soup

ORMING
a. Pre-Ming china
b. Ungainly
c. Centripetal, homing

Answers on page 54



KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Ponomariev's wins

Today I conclude my series on Ruslan Ponomariev, who has become the world's youngest ever grandmaster, crushing the records previously established by Bobby Fischer, Judit Polgar, Peter Leko and Etienne Bacrot.

It is fascinating that Fischer's record (becoming a grandmaster at 15) was established in 1958 and held for over 30 years until it was broken by Judit Polgar.

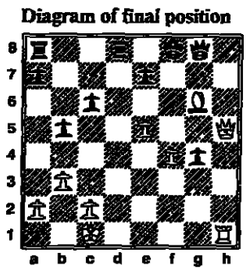
All subsequent records have occurred within the past decade, clear evidence of the much greater involvement of junior players at international level.

White: Ponomariev
Black: Tjomsland
European under-18
Rimavska Sobota, 1996

Modern Defence

1	e4	g6
2	d4	Bg7
3	Nc3	d6
4	f4	Nf6
5	Nf3	0-0
6	Bd3	Ne8
7	Be3	Bg4
8	h3	Bxf3
9	Qxf3	c6
10	e5	Nd7
11	0-0-0	Qa5
12	h4	dxe5
13	dxe5	Nc7
14	h5	Rfd8
15	hxg6	hxg6
16	Rh4	Nc5
17	Bxc5	Qxc5
18	Rdh1	Nd5
19	Nxd5	Qxd5
20	Qh3	f5
21	Rh7	Qe6
22	b3	b5
23	g4	fxg4
24	Rxg7+	Kxg7
25	Qh7+	Kf8
26	Bxg6	Qg8
27	Qh5	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



White: Socko
Black: Ponomariev
European under-18
Rimavska Sobota, 1996

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	g6
6	Nxc6	bxc6
7	e5	Ng8
8	Bc4	Bg7
9	Qf3	f5
10	Bf4	e6
11	Rd1	Qc7
12	0-0	Nh6
13	Bb3	Rb8
14	Bxh6	Bxh6
15	Rfe1	0-0
16	Qd3	g5
17	Na4	Rf7
18	Qd6	Qxd6
19	exd6	Rb5
20	Bc4	Ra5
21	b3	Bf8
22	Re3	Kg7
23	Nc3	Kf6
24	b4	Re5
25	Red3	g4
26	Rd4	f5
27	bxc5	Rbc5
28	Na4	Rc6
29	Bb3	Ke5
30	f4+	gxf3
31	gxf3	Rg7+
32	Kf2	Kf6
33	c4	Ba6
34	c5	Bb5
35	Rc1	Rc8
36	Nb2	Rg6
37	Ba4	Bh6
38	Rc2	Rcg8
39	Rg4	fxg4
40	Bxb5	g3+
41	hxg3	Rxg3

White resigns

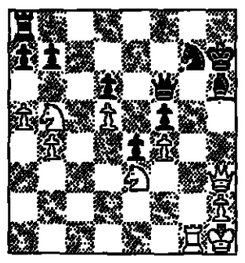
☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Gausel — Hillarp Persson, Reykjavik, 1998.
White's play along the open files on the kingside has created an opportunity for a tactical breakthrough. How did the game continue?

Solution on page 54



Composed teenager in second place on Badminton debut

Hounds fail to put Dick off scent of early lead

By Jenny MacArthur

DAISY DICK, 26, the daughter of the 1956 Grand National winning-jockey, Dave Dick, held a slender 0.8 point lead on Headley Bravo, her veteran campaigner, at the end of a windswept first day of dressage at the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials.

On a day when youth routed the old guard, Ruth Friend, 18, the youngest in the field and competing at her first Badminton, moved into second place after a superb test on her ten-year-old, Ice Dancer. Terry Boon, 24, the 1993 European Young Rider champion, is third on Marsh Warbler, with Karen Reuter, of the United States, a close fourth on Nightlife.

Dick was delighted and surprised at her polished performance. When she took Headley Bravo up to the dressage area for a practice on Wednesday, the Duke of Beaufort's hounds turned up on exercise and Bravo, who has hunted regularly with the pack, "lost the plot completely".

He was still being cheeky yesterday, but a timely piece of advice from Chris Bartle, the Great Britain team trainer, who arrived just before Dick was called into the arena, produced a transformation. "He told me to 'sit up and look as if you're enjoying it'," Dick said.

Friend, who comes from Cumbria, is extremely composed for an 18-year-old having her first stab at the world's toughest three-day event. She has never been to Badminton before, even as a spectator — "It's too far," she said. The winner of the Pony Club championships in 1995, she qualified for Badminton after finishing sixth at Blenheim last year. "We were surprised how well he coped," she said of Ice Dancer, whom she bought as a five-year-old. The dressage arena, the graveyard of many an aspiring eventer, held no fears for her. Ice Dancer's calm but active test reflected the training Friend has had from Judy Harvey. Mark Phillips, her jumping trainer, was on hand yesterday to walk the cross-country course with her. "It's what I expected — big and needing a lot of attack," she said.

Boon had a more demanding time than most in the dressage arena. "He felt ready to explode," Boon said of the ten-year-old, Marsh Warbler. Boon was an outstanding young rider but has yet to make his mark at four-star level.

His first ride round Badminton, on Vulgan Nick two years ago, resulted in a fall at The Lake. Although Marsh Warbler is a newcomer to this level, his fourth place at the three-star Boekelo event last October has boosted Boon's confidence for Saturday. "The course is big but not trappy and should suit him," he said.

Lucy Thompson, of Ireland, the 1995 European champion, also intends to make up ground tomorrow. Despite being in fifth place she was disappointed with her test. Welton Romance is one of the most talented dressage horses but she is in season and was "lit up" yesterday. "When she's in season, flying changes are not an option," Thompson said, referring to the two most exacting movements in the test, which they "fluffed".

Blyth Tait, the Olympic champion, had also hoped for a better performance from Aspyring, the first of his two rides, on which he is in joint sixth place. The 13-year-old thoroughbred, was working well in the practice area but was on the forehand as soon as he entered the arena.



ADRIAN SHERRATT

Dick looks assured during her dressage round on Headley Bravo at Badminton yesterday

"I couldn't ride him forward," Tait said. "It's a funny atmosphere in there — quiet and lonely." Tait, one of the favourites with his second horse, Ready Teddy, should improve his placing tomorrow.

Dick is unsure of the cross-country course. "It's huge and typically Badminton," she said. Her father has done little to allay her fears. "He says he'd rather I jumped round Aintree backwards than jump round here." Headley Bravo, by the Irish draught stallion, Skippy, had a slow clear at Badminton last year, but was pulled up at Burghley in September after a mistake at the fourth fence.

Andrew Nicholson, of New Zealand, who has the unenviable task of going first over the course tomorrow, is ninth after an unsettled test on Cartoon II. "He felt spooky, I think the wind upset him," he said. He is pleasantly surprised by the course. "It's more like Badminton should be — a big, galloping course." He predicts "plenty" of clear rounds but few inside the time.

RESULTS (after first day of dressage): 1, Headley Bravo (D Dick, GB) 45.2; 2, Ice Dancer II (R Friend, GB) 46.0; 3, Marsh Warbler (T Boon, GB) 48.0; 4, Nightlife IV (K Reuter, US) 48.2; 5, Welton Romance (L Thompson, Ire) 51.0; equal 6, Aspyring (B Tait, NZ) and Enterprise (E Smiley, Ire) 51.8.

ATHLETICS: GREAT BRITAIN TAKE CALCULATED GAMBLE FOR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Selectors ask Wyeth to race into the unknown

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

THE Great Britain selectors took what is believed to be an unprecedented step yesterday when they named an athlete to compete at the European championships in an event she has never run.

Alison Wyeth was picked for the marathon without a finishing time to her name. Her one attempt at 26 miles 385 yards, at the London Marathon two weeks ago, ended at five miles.

The decision to include Wyeth in the squad for the showpiece occasion of the athletics season, in Budapest in August, is thought by two of the sport's most inveterate observers to be unique.

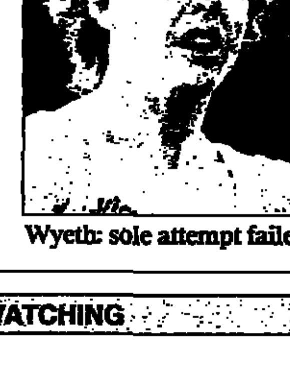
Mel Watman, co-editor of *Athletics International*, who has been reporting on the sport for 40 years, said: "I cannot think of any previous example. I would not like to put my last dollar on it, but I think it is a new departure."

Stan Greenberg, a leading statistician and author of *Olympic Facts and Feats*, said: "I do not think any British athlete has been selected for an event they have never done. It is rather daring."

Daring but not necessarily foolish. Wyeth is an accomplished cross-country and track runner, a European Cup runner-up at 5,000 metres, a Commonwealth Games bronze medal winner at 3,000 metres and five times second in the English cross-country championship.

When Wyeth, 33, dropped out in London, it was not the distance that beat her but a troublesome knee. Yet, shortly before, she had every reason to be optimistic, recording 70min 51sec for a half-marathon.

"That suggests she can go close to 2hr 30min," Alan Storey, Britain's national coach for the marathon, said. "She is the only British woman who looks as though she has the potential to run the marathon with distinction in Budapest.



Wyeth: sole attempt failed

"The selectors are to be applauded in that, in the past, it was not always certain that somebody of Alison's credentials would have been offered the place. Allowing somebody with her potential to run is a step forward."

Contrary to the impression that may have been given by the size of the London Marathon, Britain is hard-up for women long-distance runners. After Liz McColgan and Marian Sutton, respectively second and tenth, had declined invitations to Budapest, nobody impressed the selectors.

"It is not as if Alison is keeping anybody out of the team," Storey added. The British selectors had set a qualifying standard of 2hr 38min and only McColgan, with 2:26.54, and Sutton, with 2:32.14, managed it in London.

Debbie Percival went close, with 2:39.54, but the selectors chose to make no allowances for the buffeting wind and absence of men to push her. Percival was in the separate women's elite field.

Other circumstances contributed towards the paucity of contenders for a place, such as the heat and difficulty of the course at the world championships in Athens last year, and injuries. Storey described the shortage as "unfortunate and disappointing".

At the 1900 Olympics, Stan Rowley had won three sprint medals when Britain found themselves one short for the 5,000 metres team race. Rowley was drafted in but walked so leisurely that officials pulled him out.

If Wyeth's case is unprecedented in Britain, there is a legendary exception abroad. Emil Zatopek, from Czechoslovakia, won the 1952 Olympic marathon on his debut at the distance, having days earlier collected the 5,000 and 10,000 metres gold medals.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM (for European championships): Men: R Nerurkar, M Hudspith, D Buzza. Women: A Wyeth

Women get on track to equality

David Powell on an athletics meeting of huge significance

WHEN the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) announced that 1998 would be the Year of Women in Athletics, it could never have imagined how lucky it would get. The three towering performances of the year so far have all been by women — Ashia Hansen's indoor world record in the triple jump, Sonia O'Sullivan's double at the world cross-country championships and Tegla Loroupe's world record in the marathon.

However, while welcoming these performances, the IAAF's pronouncement held a deeper meaning. It wanted, it said, "to strengthen the concept of sexual equality within our sport, which has been of primary concern for many years". Yesterday, by staging the first mixed athletics meeting in Qatar, a country where women are prohibited from playing competitive sport beyond the confines of sports halls, schools and universities, the IAAF made its most significant power-play for the distaff side.



Spectators in Qatar will not see athletes dressed in the modern fashion

Women athletes used to wearing the bare necessities for competition — the two-piece suits with revealing midriff which are commonplace on the grand prix circuit — reverted to vests and cycling shorts out of respect for local custom. In Qatar, women going out in public must don the traditional full-length black apaa. Grace Jackson, the former Commonwealth sprint record-holder, who spoke at a seminar which preceded the meeting, described the historic proceedings in the Khalifa as sport's equivalent of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, said that taking the a grand prix meeting to Qatar was "emblematic" of his Year of Women in Athletics. The Doha Grand Prix, accorded second division status, was approved only on condition that women were allowed to compete. There were no Qatari women out on the track because the country has no women athletes.

The IAAF's first athletics meeting in the Gulf, held last year, was for men only. Women were not even approved as spectators and it was reported that those who did were spat at and stoned. The women were admitted yesterday, although disapproving husbands and fathers kept many away.

The seminar was attended by 100 Qatari women, mainly physical education teachers from segregated schools. To allow them to remove their veils and talk openly, no men were permitted into the room. The difficult path of negotiation had been started by Nawal El Moutawakel, from Morocco, the first Muslim woman to win an Olympic track gold medal, with her 1984 victory in the 400 metres hurdles.

It may be a long time before Qatar has a Hansen, O'Sullivan or Loroupe to applaud, but the candle has been lit.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 53

PAILOU

(c) An elaborate Chinese commemorative or ornamental gateway. From the Chinese *p'ai* a tablet + *lou* a tower. "The destruction of Peking started in the 1950s, when all the pailous that spanned the main thoroughfares of the old city were eliminated."

RECIBIR

(a) The action on the part of a bullfighter of receiving a charging bull while remaining stationary. In Spanish literally "to receive". "There are several forms of estocada. Some are attacks on stationary bulls, others, as in the Recibir, are performed by the stationary man on the charging bull."

PLOTZ

(b) To sit down wearily, to flop. To slouch or loaf around. American slang from the Yiddish *platsen*, German *platzen* to burst, influenced by the German *platz* a place or seat. "He just kind of plotzed around waiting to fall into some kind of cushy job."

ORMING

(b) Ungainly and clumsy in movement, tall and awkward; (standing about) gawping and staring. The same word as *hawm*. North British dialect. D. H. Lawrence, *Love Poems*, 1913: "Niver a baby had eyes/ As sulky an' ormin' as thine."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Nxd6! Qxd6 (if Black declines this sacrifice, his position is hopeless); 2. Rxg7+ Kxg7; 3. Nxf5+ winning the queen.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Art for television's sake

The Art Show
BBC2, 7.30pm

The newly ubiquitous Francine Stock — I heard her coin the word "unmerciless" on the wireless the other day — links the items in a new magazine on visual arts. Not that you get more than a glimpse of any actual works. There are plenty of soundbite-sized interviews, pointless vox pops and ludicrous reconstructions of art history but the drastic editing allows for no lingering look. It's a bad sign when a series kicks off not trusting the merits of its material. The items include Maureen Lipman popping round the Bonnards at the Tate, reminding you that the best way to get a gig nowadays is to be some kind of comedic performer. Lipman is resolutely trivial and I despised her for it. Paul Gough canvasses views on public works in Birmingham, including one by his uncle Vincent Van, but the exercise is utterly without value. Much like the programme.

Blankety Blank
BBC1, 8.30pm

When this game show first appeared in 1979, it marked a new tightening in BBC1's embrace of the styles and values of ITV. As its fourteenth series begins, it looks as typical of BBC1 as of any channel, caught, as it is, halfway between *Celebrity Squares* and *Family Fortunes* with, in its latest manifestation, a small sense of being post-*Sticky-Moments-and-Shooting-Stars*-modern. Lily Savage is the new compere, and while she may be the best thing to come up the music-hall pike since Dan Leno, I'm not sure that it brings out the best in her. The banter with the punters is poor stuff because they're dull and she can't make much of them. It's when she kickstarts her own imagination that she takes off. The best bonding is with *Coronation Street's* Liz Dawn.

Alexei Sayle's Merry-Go-Round
BBC2, 9.30pm

A little less in-yer-face than heretofore, Alexei Sayle returns to weave a monologue through outside locations, happily unencumbered by a studio audience. His premise is to summarise the hiatus since he last regaled us in 1995, both in his own doings and in spoofs of televisual modes. I liked his notion of a sitcom called *The Ayatollah of Dibley* or at least I liked it on paper. There's a blithe skit of the unguarded spread of rival musical styles in Milton Keynes, an idea he picks up and runs with in a manner worthy of Michael Bentine. Some of the thrusts are slightly savage — adopting a whale gives him the chance to mock liberals, and there is a triumphantly tasteless account of the origins of *Bill and Ben* — but suspicions linger that advert income has dulled his edge.



Close encounters (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Invasion Earth: The Last War
BBC1, 9.30pm

A co-production of BBC Scotland and the Sci-Fi Channel, this six-part drama is mostly the fault of Mulder and Scully. An incident with a UFO during the Blitz has a present-day payoff in provoking an RAF maverick to disobey orders and link up with an inquisitive scientist who happens, in the interests of romance, to be a woman. This is science fiction with a traditional teledrama overlay, which is to say character through dialogue, domestic detail and suspense through suggestion as much as through effect. Cinema sci-fi is a whole other ballgame. It's not quirky or referential enough to get seriously culty, but, in the drama graveyard slot on a Friday, it should do better than more thoughtful fare. And it could be the one that makes a star of RSC utility man Vincent Regan, assisted with a touch of Hollywood gruffness by Fred Ward. **W. Stephen Gilbert**

RADIO CHOICE

Sound Stories: Conductors' Corner
Radio 3, 11am

André Previn has such a variety of talents that only in Britain could he have failed to become a household name until he made a memorable guest appearance with Morecamble and Wise. The focus of this programme is on Previn's tenure as principal conductor of the London Symphony Orchestra, which he helped to turn into a world-class ensemble despite doubts expressed by critics when he was first appointed: the background in jazz and film music and his glamorous image raised the usual suspicions among the sniffy. The music today could have been selected by Previn so much is it a reflection of his own tastes: *Candide* and *My Fair Lady*, Walton's *First Symphony* and the Violin Concerto by Samuel Barber.

Friday Play: The Shadow of Mir
Radio 4, 9.00pm

This new play by Nick Fisher is a journey into space, but it is very much rooted in reality. The mechanical core of the play is the Russian space station Mir, a troubled object which was to rattle and hum through 65,000 orbits and nearly as many technical malfunctions. Into this uncertainty Fisher sends Valentina Savitskaya, an out-of-condition bureaucrat who is going through a mid-life crisis. She is sent up to inspect Mir because she is the only qualified cosmonaut left at Mission Control. Once aboard Mir she is confronted with an overworked captain suffering from stress and a British Nasa cosmonaut with an unhelpful ambition: he never wishes to return to Earth again. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Clive Warren. Includes **5.45** Newsbeat **6.00** Pete Tong's Essential Selection **9.00** Judge Jules **11.00** Westwood: Radio 1 Rap Show **2.00am** Fabio and Grooverider **4.00** Emma B

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Hubert Gregg **7.30** Friday Night is Music Night. Introduced by Ken Bruce live from the Hippodrome, Golders Green, London. The BBC Concert Orchestra under Edward Warren, with guest artists Marilyn Hill-Smith and Donald Maxwell **9.15** Scoop. Evelyn Waugh's Fleet Street satire. William Boot finally arrives at the battlefront (5/8) **9.30** Radio 2 Youth Brass Band of the Year **10.00** David Jacobs **10.30** The Arts Programme **12.05am** Charles Nove **4.00** Jackie Bird

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** *The Midday News* **1.00pm** *Ruscoe and Co* **4.00** *Nationwide* **7.00** News Extra **7.00** News Extra. Annie Webster presents a news and sports round-up, including the day's racing results **7.30** Alan Green's Sportstalk **8.30** Friday Sport. Bradford Bulls v St Helens. Live second-half coverage of the Superleague game. Plus, a look ahead to the weekend's sport **10.00** Late Night Live. Insight and comment on the day's big issues. Including Papertalk, sport round-up and the Financial World Tonight **1.00am** Up All Night with Richard Dallyn

TALK RADIO

6.30am Kirsty Young with Bill Overton **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** Mike Allen **1.00am** Mike Dickin

WORLD SERVICE

7.00am News **7.15** Insight **7.30** Pick of the World **8.00** News **8.15** Off the Shelf **8.30** Music Review **9.00** News; (648 only) News in German **9.10** Pause for Thought **9.15** Westway **9.30** John Peel **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** The Learning World **10.30** On the Brink **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Assignment **12.00**, Newsdesk **12.30pm** Focus on Faith **1.00** News; (648 only) News in German **1.05** World Business Report **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** History Today **1.45** Sports Roundup **2.00** Newshour **3.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: Alternative **4.00** News **4.05** Football Extra **4.15** Moments of Truth **4.30** Science in Action; (648 only) News in German **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Britain Today **6.00** News **6.15** Insight **6.30** The New Europe; News in German (648 only) **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Focus on Faith **8.00** News **8.01** Outlook **8.25** Pause for Thought **8.30** Multitrack: Alternative **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.05** World Business Report **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** People and Politics **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Insight **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.00** News **12.05am** Outlook **12.30** Multitrack Alternative **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** From the Weeklies **1.45** Britain Today **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Moments of Truth **2.45** Short Story **3.00** Newsday **3.30** People and Politics **4.00** News **4.05** World Business Report **4.15** Sport **4.30** Insight **4.45** Off the Shelf

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Bailey **8.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Lunchtime Requests. Jane Markham plays favourite music **2.00pm** Concerto. Dvořák (Cello Concerto in B minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.30** Newsnight. Arts issues and guest interviews, with John Brunning **7.00** Smooth Classics at Seven **9.00** Evening Concert. Corelli (Concerto Grossi No 8 in G minor) **11.00** Mann at Night **2.00am** Concerto (r)

VIRGIN RADIO

7.00am Chris Evans **10.00** Russ Williams **1.00pm** Nick Abbott **4.00** Robin Banks **7.00** Johnny Boy's Wheels of Steel **11.00** Pete Poulton **2.00am** Howard Pearce

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Petroc Trelawny.Sibelius (Karelia Suite); Saint-Saëns (Nightingale and the Rose); Tallis (Spem in Alium)
9.00 Masterworks, with Peter Hobday. Delius (On Hearing the First Cuckoo in Spring); Ravel (Jeux d'Eau); Sibelius (Symphony No 5)
10.30 Artist of the Week: Samuel Ramey
11.00 Sound Stories: Conductors' Corner. See Choice
12.00 Composer of the Week: Johann Strauss (son)
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from *the Elmwood Hall, Belfast. Paul Barritt, violin,* Catherine Edwards, piano. Elgar (Violin Sonata); Walton (Toccata in A minor); Albert Sammons (Bagatelle: Reve d'Enfant; Dance Caprice; Petit Chanson)
2.00 Orchestra and People. Sheena McDonald tells the story of the Israel Philharmonic orchestra
4.00 Music Restored (r)
4.45 Music Machine. Tommy Pearson finds out from Cheryl Baker and Terry Wogan what it's like to perform in front of the whole of Europe in the *Eurovision Song Contest*
5.00 In Tune. Sean Rafferty's guest today is the pianist Stephen Kovacevich, particularly noted for his radical interpretations of the classics
7.30 Performance on 3. Joshua Bell, violin, London Philharmonic Orchestra under Mark Wigglesworth. Webern (Passacaglia); Brahms (Violin Concerto in D); Shostakovich (Symphony No 5)
9.25 Postscript: Projections The film historian Ian Christie talks to Terry Gilliam (5/5)
9.45 Ragtime. Joshua Rifkin plays Joplin's piano rags
10.00 ISCM New Music 98: BBC Singers. A concert given last month at the Royal Northern College of Music in the world music days of the ISCM. With Nancy Ruffer, flute, Simon Limbrick, Julian *Warburton, percussion, Kim Porter, alto, Neil* Mackenzie, tenor, BBC Singers under Simon Joly. Messiaen (Cinq rechants); Xenakis (Nuits); Szymanowski (Five Kurpian Songs); Maxwell Davies (Il rozzo martello); Finnissy (Ngano)
11.30 Le Jazz Hot: C'est Paris. Russell Davies explores the history of jazz in France — a country where jazz has flourished and where visiting musicians have received a consistently warm welcome. The First World War brings jazz to France, and the early jazz travellers arrive in Paris. *Ravel takes jazz lessons from the brilliant multi-*instrumentalist Leo Vauchant (1/4) (r)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Borodin (r)
1.00am Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

6.00am Today. Includes **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament**
9.00 Desert Island Discs *Susan Blackmore (r)*
9.45 (FM) Serial: Telling the Workers About Science: Relating Relativity, by Albert Einstein, read by Rachel Atkins (5/5)
9.45 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 News; Woman's Hour, with Jenni Murray
11.00 News; Growing Pains. Sue Limb takes advice on how to grow old disgracefully (2/3) (r)
11.30 Richard Barton: General Practitioner! Lol Mason's comedy series about the adventures of the unretirable special agent Dick Barton . With *Robert Bathurst and Moray Watson*
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.00 (FM) News; You and Yours 12.57pm Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.30 Quote — Unquote. Nigel Rees is joined by Paul Gambaccini, Sir Antony Jay, Robert Robinson and Jane Walmsley
2.00 News; The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: The Captain's Wife, by Juliet Ace. Patricia Hodge stars as a Navy captain's partner
3.00 **News;** *Wired for a Week. Daire Brehan presents* an interactive series providing technical solutions to everyday problems
3.30 Rigby's Red Herrings: In Praise of the Red Herring. Food enthusiast Graeme Rigby is joined by chef Alistair Little to present five programmes about preserved fish (5/5)
3.45 Feedback, with Chris Dunkley
4.00 News; Book Club (r)
4.30 The Message. Alex Brodie and guests engage in *lively conversation about how current media* trends affect our lives
5.00 PM, with Clare English and John Sopel **5.54 (LW)** Shipping Forecast **5.57** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 News Quiz. Simon Hoggart quizzes the *Times* columnist Alan Coren, Francis Wheen and other guests on the week's news
7.00 News; The Archers 7.15 Front Row, Mark Lawson looks ahead to tomorrow's Eurovision Song Contest — after controversies in Israel and Germany, what does a Eurosong say about a nation?
7.45 Postcards: Breathing Underwater, by Bryony Lavery. A Tudor shipwreck is explored off Porthant Bay and a new diver stirs up memories. With Susannah Doyle (5/5) (r)
8.00 News; Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby is *joined in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, by Sir* Norman Fowler, Shadow Environment Secretary; Charles Kennedy, Liberal Democrat spokesman for agriculture and rural affairs; the radio critic Gillian Reynolds; and Ann Taylor, Leader of the House
8.45 Letter from America, by Alistair Cooke
9.00 News; The Friday Play: The Shadow of Mir. See Choice
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Cold Mountain. Charles *Frazier's bestselling novel, soon to be Anthony* Minghella's next film, is abridged by Kati Nicholl and read by William Hootkins (10/10)
11.00 Late Tackle. Martin Bashir and guests indulge in a late-night conversation about sport
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
11.30 (FM) Sport in Books: The Changing Room — and Beyond. Sport in literature. Chris Sykes discusses sport and drama with Michael Billington, John Godber and Harold Pinter (5/6)
12.00 **News 12.30am The Late Book: Panther in the Basement,** by Amos Oz, abridged by Patrick Carroll, read by Alfred Molina (5/9)
12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Medical magic misfires more often than not

REVIEW



Paul Hoggart

Experience teaches us that pigs don't fly and people who appear on your doorstep claiming to be doing a "survey" *are* from double-glazing firms. Likewise miraculous breakthroughs in cancer treatment aren't miraculous and only apply to certain types of patient.

But, like the serf on the Clapham ox-cart, we remain ever-eager for news of these Holy Grails. This week news reports told us excitedly of two separate new therapies which may have found the alchemical formula. Last night's **Horizon** (BBC2) hopefully entitled *Magic Bullet*, caught up with the progress of a third, older miracle.

It was all very exciting and cleverly constructed. We began with a lucky patient at the Royal Marsden Hospital, in complete remission for two years from a previously incurable form of the disease. We returned to the origins of the cure in the brilliant work of the dedicated Paul Zamecnik of Harvard, now in his eighties and still hard at it.

Ominous violin music played in the background. Excited scientists explained the revelation of hitherto unfathomable mysteries. "It's just a gorgeous concept," enthused one. "So seductive," *purred another*. Zamecnik had addressed "the biggest mystery in biology". He had devised a method of creating *DNA* fragments in a drug called Antisense, which could seek out and destroy the very proteins that caused cancer. It promised cures without side effects, and the same principle could be used for any number of diseases. Whole new pharmaceutical companies mushroomed on this rich compost of expectations.

Sadly, our urgent detective story went wrong. Development and trials were painfully slow, impeded by the caprices of investors. And the drug started killing laboratory monkeys. Reality was pulling only towards disappointment and caution. And that is where we ended up. In the Royal Marsden they have had one clear success, one too-early-to-tell-yet and one clear failure.

But cancer is like some long, slow war. We all have friends or relatives who have died at the front, or whose lives hang in the balance after an unexpected raid. These reports sell themselves to our desperate hope of relief, and, if we didn't know better, they would be cruel teases.

Antisense may prove stunningly effective in time. It has already snatched one man from the abyss. But my abiding image from the programme was of Jeff Tems and his wife Lorraine sitting in their kitchen, devastated by the treatment's failure and another hope dashed, hanging on with every last ounce of will.

If *Horizon* took us to the cutting edge of medicine, **Doctors at Large: The Knife** (BBC2) gave us the grinding mechanics of daily routine. *Doctors To Be*, the original 1984 fly-on-the-wall about a group of medical students, was somewhat tepid stuff, but last night's update *on the careers of* two would-be surgeons was drawn inexorably into polemic.

Not that the production team had to do much. Reality spoke for itself. In 1984 Mark George and Fey Probst both wanted to be surgeons. Mark was a relaxed lad with that public schoolboy's habit of wearing his shirt collar up.

Now he's a serious, but still relaxed, registrar whose collar nearly covers his tie. He has a powerful consultant mentor, good pay and gleaming prospects. His life is commitment-lite: he works hard but has an understanding girlfriend and time for golf.

Fey, by contrast, has ended up as a working single mother of four children. She hasn't made it into surgery because she hasn't found time for the study necessary to pass the second sets of incredibly demanding examinations. She works on a casualty ward, for at least 70 hours a week. To keep her *hand in for a surgical career, she* was assisting a private cosmetic surgeon on the side. During one week, she claims, she worked for 168 hours virtually continuously.

Fey can't afford an au pair because she is putting her children through private school, so she comes home to hours of ironing and cleaning. The two younger children came into casualty to eat Indian takeaway with her in the office, except that she was leaping up and down every two minutes.

While Mark perfects his easy bedside manner — "Do you mind if I take a little look at the tail-end now?" — Fey is racing around the hospital like Anneka Rice on angel dust. "I enjoy the cardiac arrests," she explained, adding: "But only if I can bring them round."

Fey's life appears to be a breathtaking feat of high-adrenalin juggling, a tribute to human energy *and resourcefulness that puts the* rest of us to shame. By the end of the programme her mentor had left and she had abandoned hope of becoming a comfortable, well-paid general surgeon. Of 7,000 surgeons, we were told, 488 were women and only 230 of those had children. "You get out what you put in," mused Mark at one point. Really?

Fortunately, harsh realities were *nowhere on the agenda of last* night's one-hour special of **Emmerdale** (ITV). In an era of gritty, in-your-face social issues and pungent melodrama, it is refreshing to find a soap opera keeping alive the traditions of *Crossroads* or Victoria Wood's *Acorn Antiques*.

The characters have their problems: they are all nasty, stupid or both, and the community is as tightly knit as a bowl of spaghetti. But this cannot mar the wooden acting, plonking dialogue and *clumsy direction. It is deliciously* awful, and I recommend it to anyone with serious medical problems.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (88243)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (58427)
9.00 Change That (8306953)
9.25 Kilroy (T) (7258296)
10.05 A Date with Fate (7783205)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (8432021)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (4427576)
11.35 The General (6722866)
12.00 News (T) (9171040)
12.05pm The Entertainment Game (8034069)
12.35 Wipeout (7933048)
1.00 News (T) and weather (51514)
1.30 Regional News (T) (13975934)
1.40 The Weather Show (22378392)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (95968934)
2.10 Ironside (r) (9294446)
3.00 Through the Keyhole *(7866)*
3.30 Playdays (r) (1903791) **3.50** The Littlest Pet Shop (2899069) **4.00** Bodger and Badger (r) (6422311) **4.15** Bailey Kipper's *POV* (T) (5835430) *4.35 Clarissa Explains It All* (T) (1212311) **5.00** Newsround (T) (2562309) **5.10** Blue Peter. The Millennium competition results are *announced (T) (8444311)*
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (898972)
6.00 News (T) and weather (359)
6.30 Regional News (T) (311)
7.00 Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson (T) (2175)
7.30 Top of the Pops (T) (595)
8.00 Confessions The athlete Colin Jackson and glamour girl Gayle Tuesday face up to past mistakes (T) (8595)
8.30 Blankety Blank Lily Savage hosts a new series, with Richard Whiteley, Liz Dawn, Jill Dando, Graham Cole, Norman Pace and Susan Penhaligon (T) (7530)
9.00 News (T) and weather *(7224)*
9.30 Invasion Earth: The Last War First in a six-part sci-fi drama. Planet Earth is caught in the *crossfire of an interplanetary conflict*. With Vincent Regan, Maggie O'Neill and Fred Ward (T) (351069)
10.20 Eurovision Uncovered Behind the *scenes at the Eurovision Song Contest in* Birmingham (T) (402934) **WALES: 10.20** Whole Lotta Money (402934) **10.50** Eurovision Uncovered (542088) **11.20** FILM: Cape Fear (519427) **1.20am** FILM: Body Parts (1582170) **2.35** News **2.40** BBC News 24
10.50 Cape Fear (1991) Robert De Niro stars as a psychopathic convict out for revenge on defence lawyer Nick Nolte, who failed him at his trial 14 years earlier. Martin Scorsese's remake of the acclaimed 1962 thriller also stars Jessica Lange and Juliette Lewis, with appearances by Gregory Peck, Robert Mitchum and Martin Balsam (T) (80801595)
12.50am Body Parts (1991) Jeff Fahey stars as a criminal psychologist who loses an arm in a car crash and is given a replacement, transplanted from a dead psychopath, which has a life of its own. Directed by Eric Red (T) *(8668809)*
2.10 Weather (6144625)
2.15 BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.10am From Public to Private (T) (3670408) **6.35** Strategy on the Screen (5831779)
7.00 Teddy Trucks (r) (9837224) **7.05** Teletubbies (r) (9032427) **7.30** Tom and Jerry Kids (3551972) **7.55** Buried Treasure (7105359) **8.15** Yogi's Treasure Hunt (2470066) **8.35** Pingu (r) (2680750) **8.45** The Record (4351040) **9.10** Go for *It! (2889021) 9.30* Watch (7751866) **9.45** Come Outside (7749021) **10.00** Teletubbies (11408) **10.30** Look and Read (3272224) **10.50** Mad About Music (3292088) **11.10** *Landmarks* (9470514) **11.30** Sportsbank (6359) **12.00** Shakespeare: The Animated Tales (59595)
12.30pm Working Lunch (85408) **1.00** Funnybones (14653601) **1.05** Bananaman (14652972) **1.10** The Countryside Hour (r) (1059175)
2.10 Flightline Spitfire aerobatics, the computer software used to land crippled aircraft; and Boeing's proposed superjumbo (79154885) **2.40** News (T) **2.45** Stage Struck (r) (7024779) **3.25** News (T) **3.30** The Victorian Kitchen Garden (r) (T) (717)
4.00 Real Rooms (5811934) **4.25** Ready, Steady, Cook (5814021) **4.55** Esther (6881408) **5.30** Today's the Day (208)
6.00 The Simpsons (r) (T) (323427)
6.25 Star Trek (r) (T) (974137)
7.15 Lost in Space New series featuring fans of sci-fi (T) (519682)
7.30 The Art Show Francine Stock presents a new magazine devoted to the visual arts (T) (137)
8.00 The Hunt: Tally Ho (1/5) Following the Worcester Hunt. Huntsman Julian Barnfield is concerned about the health of the hounds; and Michael Foster, MP, prepares a Bill to bring an end to the sport (T) (6137)
8.30 Gardeners' World Cherry blossom season in Japan; tomatoes and hanging baskets; a country-style garden in London (T) (8972)
9.00 Bottom (r) (T) (5866)



Manic moments with Alexei (9.30)

9.30 *Alexei Sayle's Merry-Go-Round* New series of sketches and stand-up (T) (98972)
10.00 Have I Got News for You (50224)
10.30 Newsnight (531663)
11.15 Later with Jools Holland Page and Plant, Natalie Imbruglia, Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, Gomez, Terry Callier and Beth Orton (280156)
12.20am El Mariachi (1992) Low-budget western adventure and prequel to director Robert Rodriguez's *Desperado*, with Carlos Gallardo *(9140118)*
1.40Space: Above and Beyond (r) (T) (8196335)
2.20-2.25 Weather (6166847)
3.00-5.00 GCSE Bitesize Revision (74996)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (9957427)
9.25 This Morning (T) (6290840)
9.30 Vanessa (2564069)
10.10 This Morning *(T) (28386885)*
12.15pm Regional News (6366750)
12.30 News (T) and weather (72934)
1.00 Wish You Were Here? (46682) **1.30** Home and Away (T) (71205) **2.00** The Jerry Springer Show (T) (3303682)
2.45 WALES: Get Gardening (234682)
2.45 Garden Calendar (234682)
3.15 News (T) (3505069)
3.20 Regional News (T) (3595682)
3.25 Potamus Park (r) (3585205) **3.35** The Big Bag (8447224) **3.50** Paddington Bear (r) (5822040) **3.55** Cartoon Time (r) (5821311) **4.00** Magic with Everything (8085953) **4.20** Animaniacs (r) (T) (6428595) **4.40** Crazy Cottage (4133514)
5.10 A Country Practice (6707972)
5.40 News (T) and weather (917514)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (310953)
6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (248359)
6.25 HTV Weather (951359)
6.30 The West Tonight (779)
7.00 Emmerdale *Kim faces up to the future (T)* (7243)
7.30 Coronation Street Zoe takes Morgan for a walk along the canal (T) (663)
8.00 My Wonderful Life: Hamburger Heaven Donna feels outshone by Phil's new girlfriend (T) (3663)



Samantha Robson as Hagen (8.30)

8.30 The Bill: Volcano Jarvis's dislike of new girl Hagen gets the better of him. With Samantha Robson (T) (2798)
9.00 The World's Most Dangerous Animals — Part 2 Incredible footage of animal attacks (r) (T) (8205)
10.00 News (T) and weather (47750)
10.30 Friday Night's All Wright An FA Cup edition of Ian Wright's occasional show. *The Arsenal footballer greets guests* including the actor and singer Jimmy Nail, Sheffield Wednesday striker Paolo di Canio, American singer Shania Twain, the boxer Lennox Lewis and DJ Pete Tong (T) (67972)
11.40 Friday Night Fever (T) (755601)
12.15am Mystery Date (1991) Comedy with Ethan Hawke and Teri Polo. A shy young man takes his older brother's identity to take a beautiful girl on a date, only to find himself wanted by gangsters. Directed by Jonathan Wacks (236809)
2.05 War of the Worlds (r) (4320248)
2.55 Pop Down the Pub (9406335)
3.25 Not Fade Away (r) (2136070)
4.20 Collins and Maconie's Movie Club *(r)* (37117267)
4.45 ITV Nightscreen (69811996)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (13267)
5.30 News (72847)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
1.30pm The Jerry Springer Show (2710507)
2.45-3.15 Surprise Gardeners (234682)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street *(6707972)*
6.25-7.00 Central News (248359)
11.40 Tales from the Darkside (448224)
12.10am God's Gift (8123248)
1.10 Pop Down the Pub (3473199)
1.40 World Football (8383828)
2.10 Rock the Kop: The Hillsborough *Justice Concert* *(626880)*
3.50 Central Jobfinder '98 (8765793)
5.20 Asian Eye (1531712)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.27pm-12.30 Illuminations (9185243)
1.00 Emmerdale (46682)
1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (2710507)
2.45-3.15 Westcountry Update (234682)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away *(6707972)*
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (80953)
5.00am Freescreen (13267)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.15pm-12.30 News and Weather (6366750)
1.00-1.30 Shortland Street (46682)
2.45-3.15 Put It to the Test (234682)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (6707972)
6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight *(80953)*
5.00am Freescreen (13267)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except:
2.45-3.15 Great Little Gardens (234682)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (6707972)
6.23 Anglia Weather (952088)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (248359)

S4C

Starts: **7.00am The Big Breakfast** (41137)
9.00 FILM: How to be Very, Very Popular (96013663)
10.40 Holiday (3281972)
11.00 Australia Wild (8458)
11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (1427)
12.00pm Ricki Lake (44663)
12.30 Sesame Street (70576)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (11792682)
1.15 Tomos Y Tanc (11797137)
1.30 FILM: That's Entertainment III (20934)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (885)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (392)
4.30 Countdown (576)
5.00 5 Pump (5021)
5.30 Pet Rescue (156)
6.00 Newyddion 6 *(781427)*
6.10 Heno (979682)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (254243)
7.25 Y Clwb Rygbi (507934)
8.00 Ma' Ifan 'Ma (1205)
8.30 Newyddion (3040)
9.00 Celebrity Countdown (8214)
9.30 Friends (83040)
10.00 Brookside (480205)
10.35 Babylon 5 (383953)
11.30 TFI Friday (425953)
12.35am Planet Football (2997712)
1.40 Jo Whiley (9707539)
2.25 Pond Life (5326335)
2.40 FILM: Behold a Pale Horse (97618847)

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Sesame Street (r) (71953)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (T) (41137)
9.00 How to Be Very, Very Popular (1955) with Betty Grable and Sheree North. Comedy musical about two strippers who flee after witnessing a murder. Directed by Nunnally Johnson (96013663)
10.40 Holiday (3281972) **11.00** Australia Wild (r) (T) (8458) **11.30** Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (T) (1427) **12.00** Sesame Street (44663) **12.30pm** I Dream of Jeannie (70576) **1.00** Late Lunch (r) (44224)
1.30 The Big Day Steve and Sarah finally tie the knot (95996717)
1.55 An Inspector Calls (1954) J.B. Priestley classic, with Alastair Sim as the mysterious policeman whose arrival triggers family revelations. Directed by Guy Hamilton (66000446)
3.30 Collectors' Lot Motor racing memorabilia; London Transport lost property; and historical ambulances (r) (T) (885) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (392) **4.30** Countdown (T) (1206750) **4.55** Ricki Lake: Ricki Makes Family Dreams Come True (T) (6876576)
5.30 Pet Rescue A German shepherd dog is brought in with a life-threatening skin condition (T) (156)
6.00 TFI Friday Hosted by Chris Evans with musical guests All Saints, Lenny Kravitz and Bananarama (88595)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (188798)
7.50 The Political Slot (T) (387205)
8.00 Wild About the Garden: Wetlands *Presented by Carol Klein, in the West* Midlands, Devon and Bath (4/6) (1205)
8.30 Brookside Will Ron come clean to help Sinbad? Ben suffers a devastating *setback (T) (3040)*
9.00 Ellen: Moving On Ellen and the bookstore gang adjust to the fact that she has come out (T) (8214)



Katie Boyle, Antoine de Caunes (9.30)

9.30 A Song for Eurotrash Antoine de Caunes and former Eurovision presenter Katie Boyle relive some of the unforgettable moments in the contest's history (r) (T) (89330)
10.30 Frasier Bulldog becomes famous when he takes the credit for saving Roz's life during a hold-up (T) (811311)
11.05 King of the Hill (674309)
11.35 TFI Friday (r) (T) (424224)
12.40am Pond Life (6474557)
12.55 Jo Whiley (r) (6124170)
1.40 Planet Football *(r)* (2062828)
2.40 Behold a Pale Horse (1964, b/w) with Gregory Peck as Manuel Artiguez, a veteran guerrilla drawn back into his past. With Anthony Quinn. Directed by Fred Zinnemann (T) (97618847)
4.45 The Audition (8427002)
5.30 The Clangers (9935606)
5.40 Insektors (4523441)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. **Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz**

6.00am 5 News Early (3446953)
7.00 WideWorld (r) (T) (3630514) **7.30** *Milkshake! (3585088)* **7.35** Wimzie's House (7435359) **8.00** Havakazoo (1013750) **8.30** Dappledown Farm (1012021)
9.00 Wild World of the East *(r) (T) (1036601)* **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9804576) **10.20** Sunset Beach (T) (6178345) **11.10** Leeza (8316175)
12.00 5 News (1023137) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (4710595) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (3639885) **1.30** Sons and Daughters (4719866) **2.00** Open *House with Gloria Hunniford (3317392)* **3.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (1094885)
3.30 Painting the Clouds with Sunshine (1951) Musical. Virginia Mayo and friends go to Las Vegas seeking wealthy husbands. Directed by David Butler (3874330)
5.10 The Oprah Winfrey Show (9255750)
6.00 100 Per Cent (2820601)
6.30 Family Affairs (T) (2811953)
7.00 5 News (1086865)
7.30 Wildlife SOS A snake is brought in by a cat (T) (2817137)
8.00 Fame and Fortune: Andy Williams (T) (1095514)



Leslie, Day and Greenhalgh (8.30)

8.30 Was It Good for You? Ailsa Greenhalgh and John Leslie present a compilation special (1074021)
9.00 With Savage Intent (TVM, 1992) Based on the true story of a real estate agent who is shot when she goes to view a property. With Elizabeth Montgomery and Robert Foxworth. Directed by Michael Tuchner (41119175)
10.50 C-16 FBI series with Eric Roberts, DB Sweeney (1110682)
11.45 Body Chemistry IV (TVM, 1995) Erotic thriller directed by Jim Wynorski *(2314682)*
1.35am Soultaker (1990) Fantasy thriller directed by and starring Vivian Schilling, with Joe Estevez, Gregg Thomsen and *Robert Z'Dar (9623267)*
3.15 A Place to Go (1964, b/w) An angry young Londoner uses love and crime to break free of his depressing *surroundings. With Rita Tushingham, Bernard Lee and Mike Sarne. Directed by* Basil Dearden (95229967)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1305644)
5.30 100 Per Cent (8337731)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY 1

7.00am Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills (92885) **7.30** Games World (5172040) **7.45** Simpsons (49953) **8.15** Oprah (9244427) **9.00** Hotel (59243) **10.00** Another World (77576) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (80040) **12.00** Married with Children (91595) **12.30pm** MASH (34798) **1.00** Geraldo (22953) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (54137) **3.00** Jenny Jones (25576) **4.00** Oprah (37311) **5.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (8750) **6.00** The Nanny (3311) **6.30** Married with Children (4663) **7.00** Simpsons (6779) **7.30** Real TV (3175) **8.00** Highlander: The Series (56934) **9.00** Walker, Texas Ranger *(76798) 10.00 Poltergeist*: The Legacy (79885) **11.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (78205) **12.00** Boys of Twilight (59083) **1.00am** Long Play (8848480)

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Blood and Wine (1996)
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)
Twin Town (1997)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Through the Olive Trees (1994) (22311) **8.00 Seventh Voyage of Sinbad (1958)** (21418427) **9.40 Farewell to Planet of the Apes (1974)** (21772972) **11.20 My Ghost Dog (1997)** (28712576) **1.00pm Rhinestone (1984)** (69089) **3.00 Memories of Me (1988)** (69866) **5.00 Seventh Voyage of Sinbad (1958)** (73476) **7.00 My Ghost Dog (1997)** (41972) **9.00 Twelve Monkeys (1995)** (33815798) **11.10 Die Hard with a Vengeance (1995)** (15392408) **1.15am Good Guys Wear Black (1979)** (744064) **2.55 I Walk the Line (1970)** (176460) **4.30** ***Farewell to Planet of the Apes (1974)*** (52538)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.00am Joan of Paris (1941) (20953) **8.00 Farewell My Lovely (1944)** *(76359)* **10.00 Pirates of Blood River (1962)** (36156) **12.00 West Side Waltz (1995)** (59682) **2.00pm Easy Living (1937)** (68779) **4.00 Oregon Trail (1959)** (1224) **6.00 West Side Waltz (1995)** (34934) **8.00 Hidden in America (1996)** (83066) **10.00 Great White Hype (1996)** (746525) **11.35 Denise Calls Up (1995)** (717311) **1.00am Terminal Justice (1995)** (763198) **2.35 Dukes of Hazzard Reunion (1997)** *(161538)* **4.10 Willy Fog: Around the World in 80 Days (1995)** (254373)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm Guess Who's Coming to Dinner? (1967) *(6869040)* **6.00 The Hot Rock (1972)** (5609663) **8.00 Foul Play (1978)** (5611408) **10.00 Cry Freedom (1987)** (48739717) **12.35am The Seven-Ups (1973)** (3384373) **2.20 Alien (1979)** *(1170248)* **4.15 The Hot Rock (1972)** (2989644) **5.55** Close

TNT

9.00pm WCW Wrestling (35224682) ***10.00 Telefon*** *(26747427)* **12.00 The Comedians (1967)** (73101151) **2.30am Hit Man (1972)** (73595606) **4.00 When the Lion Roars** (76378002) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sports Centre (49717) **7.30** Wrestling (33750) **8.30** Sports Centre (39886) **9.00** Racing News (53446) **9.30** Aerobics (65779) **10.00** Spanish Primera Liga (78243) **12.00** Aerobics (33682) **12.30pm** Inside the PGA Tour (69595) **1.00** Golf: Turespana Masters — Live (8371214) **5.00** Inside the Senior PGA Tour (9885) **5.30** Futbol Mundial (8088) **6.00** Sports Centre (77514) **7.00** World Sport Special (9021) **7.30** Rugby League. Bradford v St Helens — Live (983021) **10.00** Sports Centre (19427) **11.00** Hold the Back Page (25137) **12.00** Sports Centre (89625) **1.00am** Wrestling (51538) **3.00** Hold the Back Page (59977) **4.00** Rugby League (30118)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (9288750) **7.30** Sports Centre (9207885) **8.00** Racing News (2577953) **8.30** Trans World Sport (6818934) **9.30** Formula Three (8056137) **10.00** The Rugby Club (8346445) **11.30** Showjumping (8531427) **12.00** Squash (8079088) **1.00pm** Watersports World (8055408) **2.00** Formula Three (9127392) **2.30** Showjumping (2708412) **3.00** Squash (8535243) **4.00** Trans World Sport (8514750) **5.00** *NHL: Powerweek (9137779)* **6.00** The Winning Post — Live (9226430) **8.30** Football League Review (5882779) **10.00** End Zone (3446717) **11.00** NHL (9304798) **12.00** Football League Review (5854996) **1.30am** World Sport Special (3241977) **2.00** Sports Centre (1802847) **3.00** Golf: Turespana Masters (5501083)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Trans World Sport (58793088) **1.00pm** Ringside (58779408) **2.00** Football Scrapbook (19791999) **3.30** Sports Unlimited (62773359) **4.30** Rugby Club (59971069) **6.00** End Zone (58782972) **7.00** Golf: Turespana (93904640) **10.00** Wrestling (26749885) **12.00** Close

EUROSPORT

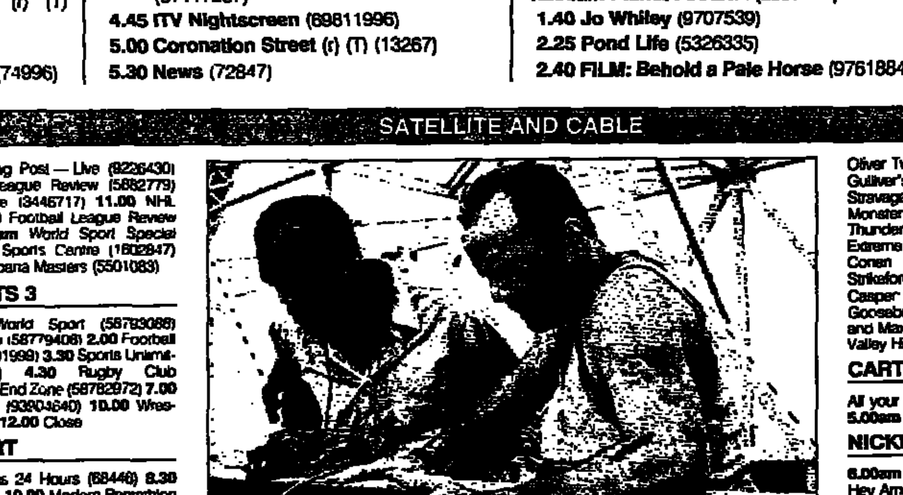
7.30am Le Mans 24 Hours (68446) **8.30** *Athletics (58779) 10.00 Modern Pentathlon* (19576) **11.00** Road to the World Cup (22040) **12.00** GTR Euroseries (73798) **1.00pm** International Motorsports Magazine (82446) **2.00** Mountain Biking (3601) **2.30** Cycling: Tour of Romandy — Live (47934) **4.00** Tennis: German Open (417296) **7.00** Uefa Under-16 Championship — Live (14021) **9.00** Boxing (91868) **10.00** Bowling (41345) **11.00** Youth Only Zone (39224) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Never the Twain (5147040) **7.35** Neighbours (7757021) **8.00** Crossroads *(3998750) 8.25 EastEnders (7720885)* **9.00** The Bill (7576717) **9.30** Howards' Way (2495595) **10.00** Shelley (4558156) **10.30** The Sullivans (7565601) **11.00** Casualty (9635885) **12.00** Crossroads (27060601) **12.25pm** *Neighbours* (27060088) **12.55** EastEnders (2495804) **1.30** Keeping Up Appearances (7212798) **2.05** Ever Decreasing Circles (2707088) **2.45** Dangerfield (8637834) **3.45** The Bill (4375972) **4.15** Juliet Bravo (43863330) **5.20** EastEnders (3940514) **5.55** Big Break (8559295) **6.30** The Bill (7025682) **7.00** Dad's Army (5880972) **7.40** Yes, Minister (5413834) **8.20** May to December (1360853) **9.00** Spender (42058330) **10.05** The Comic Strip Presents: Slags (7717021) **10.45** The Jack Dee Show (2712750) **11.20** Alas Smith and Jones (4946953) **11.55** A Woman of Substance (9687885) **1.40am** The Equalizer (9299538) **2.30** Shopping

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (8933412) **7.00** Et Mysteries & Scandals (2683717) **7.30** Coronation St (2642224) **8.00** Blind Date (5543088) **9.00** Hadleigh (6078934) **10.00** The Saint (2648408) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (2651972) **12.00** Coronation St (7058243) **12.30pm** Families (5714865) **1.00** A Fine Romance (2562088) **1.30** Me & My Girl (5713137) **2.00** Hadleigh (7628798) **3.00** Jason King (6338311) **4.00** Hawaii Five-O (6357446) **5.00** The Saint (4308514) **6.00** Families (1595446) **6.30** Coronation St (1586798) **7.00** Doctor in Charge (4307243) **7.30** Singles (1575682) **8.00** Jason King (7738798) **9.00** Coronation St (6346330) **9.30** Wheltappers & Shunters (5727330) **10.00** The Saint (7711021) **11.00** Granada Men & Motors (9542595)



Samuel L. Jackson and Bruce Willis (Screen One, 11.10pm)

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE)

5.00pm Blockbusters (52431750) **5.30** Hey Dad II (57078021) **6.00** Byker Grove (57075934) **6.30** A Country Practice (57099514) **7.00** London Bridge (52451514) **7.30** Once in a Lifetime (57095798) **8.00** Blue Heelers (35226408) *9.00 Love Hurts (35231972) 10.00 Life After* Birth (80118069) **10.30** Movie Club (80127717) **11.00** St Elsewhere (36885069) **12.00** Haggard (47909070) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (59821064) **1.00** *Beiderbecke Affair (76050583) 2.00 Close*

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree **6.30** Jungle Cubs **7.00** Recess **7.30** Pepper Ann **8.00** Brand Spanking New Doug **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa **9.00** Aladdin: The Series **9.30** Quack Pack **10.00** Mouse and Mole **10.05** Amazing Animals **10.30** Sesame Street **11.30** Winnie the Pooh **11.45** Alphabet Castle **12.00** Little Hippo **12.10pm** Let's Wiggle! **12.15** Animal Shelf **12.30** Rosie and Jim **12.45** Small Stories **12.50** Bear in the Big Blue House **1.20** Winnie the Pooh **1.35** Chip 'n' Dale **2.00** Goof Troop **2.30** Jungle Cubs **3.00** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Brand Spanking New Doug **4.00** Pepper Ann **4.30** Recess **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Teen Angel **6.30** Boy Meets World **7.00** FILM: The Phoenix and the Carpet **8.30** The Wonder Years **9.00** Touched by an Angel **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am *Power Rangers Zeo* **6.30** Power Rangers Zeo **7.00** X Men **7.25** Casper **7.35** Spiderman **8.00** Goosebumps **8.25** Sam and Max **8.35** Big Bad Beetleborgs **9.00** Masked Rider **9.30** Grimm's Fairy Tales **10.00** *Pinocchio* **10.30** Peter Pan **11.00** Oliver Twist **11.30** Huckleberry Finn **12.00** Gulliver's Travels **12.30pm** Eek! Stravaganza **12.42** The Mouse and the Monster **12.54** Casper **1.06** Terrible Thunderlizards **1.18** Sam and Max **1.30** Extreme Heroes **2.00** Eagle Riders **2.30** Conan the Adventurer **3.00** Skysurfer Strikeforce **3.30** Donkey Kong Country **4.00** Casper: Double Bill **4.50** Casper **5.00** Goosebumps **5.25** Eerie, Indiana **5.50** Sam and Max **6.00** The Pepsi Chart **6.30** Sweet Valley High **7.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from 5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON

6.00am Count Duckula **6.30** Grimmy **7.00** Hey Arnold! **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Arthur **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear etc **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blue's Clues **1.00** Bananas in Pyjamas **1.30** Franklin **2.00** Little Bear Stories **2.30** CBBC **3.00** CBBC **3.30** Doug **4.00** Pippi Longstocking **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan & Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

7.00am Batman **7.30** Earthworm Jim **8.00** California Dreams **8.30** Hang Time **9.00** Ready or Not **9.30** Heartbreak High **10.30** Echo Point **11.00** Batman **11.30** Earthworm Jim **12.00** Sweat **12.30pm** Heartbreak High **1.30** Echo Point **2.00** Hollyoaks **2.30** It's in the Jeans **2.45** Teenage Urban Adventures **3.00** Sweat **3.30** California Dreams **4.00** Ready or Not **4.30** Saved by the Bell **5.00** Hollyoaks **5.30** USA High **6.00** Hang Time **6.30** Blast **7.00** Saved by the Bell **7.30** USA High **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Crosswits **5.30** Family Days Out **5.45** Family Fortunes **6.30** Sale of the Century **7.15** Winner Takes All **7.45** Family Days Out **8.00** The Crystal Maze **9.15** Strike It Lucky **10.00** Endurance UK **11.00** Jools Holland's Name That Tune **11.45** Karaoke Challenge **12.30am** McKenna **1.30** The Fall Guy **2.30** Big Brother Jake **3.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga **4.00** The Big Valley **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (9814088) **9.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (8444682) **9.30** Cops (2404243) **10.00** The Basement (1840224) **10.15** Bravo's Briefs (1845779) **10.30** Red Shoe Diaries (7568798) **11.00** FILM: (6866798) **1.00am** Beverly Hills Bordello (7588731) **1.30** FILM: Hard Boiled (1992) (5425995) **4.00** Beverly Hills Bordello (8737489) **4.30** Red Shoe Diaries (7578996) **5.00** The A-Team (5565828)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Cosby (7663) **7.30** Roseanne (3779) **8.00** Grace Under Fire (8311) **8.30** Caroline in the City (5446) **9.00** Cybill (86069) **9.30** Ellen (70601) **10.00** Gayle's World (32953) **10.30** Cheers (41601) **11.00** Duckman (83514) **11.30** Food Fight (97866) **12.00** Nurses (31538) **12.30am** It's Garry Shandling's Show (19828) **1.00** Frasier (33644) **1.30** Cheers (48064) **2.00** Caroline in the City (18996) **2.30** Food Fight (20731) *3.00 Roseanne (13880)* **3.30** Cybill (11083) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Quantum Leap (3446224) **9.00** PSI Factor: Chronicles of the Paranormal (3466088) **10.00** FILM: Gamera — The Guardians of the Universe (1997) (7569953) **12.00** Sightings (1493915) **1.00am** The Six Million Dollar Man (2768996) **2.00** Friday the 13th (8512793) **3.00** *Tales of the* Unexpected (7658625) **3.30** Dark Shadows (7191441) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am Simply Painting **9.30** Gardeners' Diary **10.00** Grassroots **10.30** New Yankee Workshop **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing World **11.30** Homeline **12.00** The Close Guide **12.30pm** This Old House **1.00** Yan Can Cook — The Best of Asia **1.30** Furniture to Go **2.00** Doing it Up **2.30** Antiques Challenge **3.00** Two's Country **3.30** Home Again **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing World (7022595) **4.30** Zoo Story (7028779) **5.00** First Flights (6959595) **5.30** Time Travellers (7042359) **6.00** Wildlife SOS (7032972) **6.30** Royal Blood (9758717) **7.30** Disaster (7028408) **8.00** Crocodile Hunter (8887934) **9.00** Forensic Detectives (9807798) **10.00** Extreme Machines (5800885) **11.00** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (8452601) **11.30** Arthur C Clarke's Mysterious Universe (4545682) **12.00** First Flights (9844267) **12.30am** Disaster (5873977) **1.00** Forensic Detectives (7883977)

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Fighting for Animals (6265137) **7.30** All Aboard Zaire's Amazing Bazaar (3659345) **8.00** The Shark Files (8903311) **9.00** Worlds Apart (5100601) **9.30** Extreme Earth (1958750) **10.00** Wild Dog Dingo (8993934) **11.00** Okavango Diary (5112446) **11.30** Vietnam's Great Ape (2785576) **12.00** A Natural Passion (3703083) **1.00am** Close

TRAVEL (CABLE)

12.00 Travel Live Stop The Week **1.00pm** A Golfer's Travels **1.30** Gatherings And Celebrations **2.00** On Tour **2.30** Out To Lunch With Brian Turner **3.00** Of Tales And Travels **4.00** The Great Escape **4.30** Cities Of The World **5.00** A Golfer's Travels **5.30** Travel Trails **6.00** Gatherings And Celebrations *6.30 On Tour 7.00 Travel Live Stop* The Week **8.00** Stepping The World **8.30** The Flavours Of France **9.00** Going Places **10.00** Out To Lunch With Brian Turner **10.30** Floyd On Oz **11.00** Travel Live Stop The Week **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (8514750) **5.00** Modern Marvels (9137779) **6.00** Ancient *Mysteries: Warriors (8068972)* **7.00** Biography: General Montgomery (3447446) **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)

9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** A Taste of England **10.30** What's Cooking? **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Slice of Life **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** French Lunch **2.00** Surprise Chefs **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Caribbean Light **3.30** Worrall Thompson Cooks **4.00** Ideal Home Cooks **4.30** Planet Nosh **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Rolonda **9.50** Ready, Steady, Cook **10.30** The Young and the Restless **11.20** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **11.50** Jimmy's **12.20pm** Living Issues **12.50** Rescue 911 **1.25** Hart to Hart **2.20** Living It Up! **3.20** Rolonda **4.10** Tempest **5.00** The Heat Is On **5.30** Ready, Steady, Cook **6.10** Jerry Springer **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Adrenalin Junkies **9.00** FILM: Sins of the Mother **11.05** The Jerry Springer After Hours **12.00** Close



GOLF 53
Martín makes mark in Majorca as Ballesteros struggles

SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM 54
Dick leads charge of youth brigade at Badminton



SATURDAY MAY 8 1998

England coach supports Shearer

Hoddle leaps to defence of his captain

By Matt Dickinson

GLENN HODDLE yesterday declared Alan Shearer, his England captain, innocent over the infamous kicking incident with Neil Lennon and, in the process, potentially put himself at odds with his employers at the Football Association. "It's time now for events to run their course, and for everyone who wants success in France to get off his back," the England coach said yesterday, but he did not make it clear whether the latter comment referred to the media or to officials at Lancaster Gate. Quite probably both.

Hoddle's statement came 24 hours after Shearer, the Newcastle United striker, was told by the FA that he will have to explain how his boot came to catch Lennon, the Leicester City midfield player, in the face during an FA Carling Premiership match last week. Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, took the decision to charge Shearer and a three-man commission will decide whether there has been "an alleged breach of the rules".

The hearing was not expected to be heard until after the World Cup finals, but Hoddle further complicated the issue last night by calling for an early resolution. He is worried that the on-going furore will overshadow his preparations for the tournament in France, which start next month.

When the commission meets, however, is dependent on Shearer and his advisers, who are already angry at the way in which the FA has handled the affair. Nothing can be decided until after the FA Cup Final on May 16 and, with the England squad meeting 48 hours later, it would mean Shearer interrupting World Cup training to plead his case. Hoddle will want to avoid that potential sideshow.

It all adds up to more potential embarrassment for the FA, who put out Hoddle's statement yesterday in which he gave his unequivocal backing to Shearer, despite Kelly's decision that there is a case to answer. "I have spoken to Alan Shearer at length over recent days," Hoddle's statement read. "I have watched the incident he was involved in during last week's match at Leicester on several occasions.

"As a result, I am 100 per cent sure what happened was accidental. My personal opinion from the start has been that it was accidental. I don't accept Alan would deliberately intend to harm a fellow professional. As far as the England team is concerned, we hope the matter will be brought to a conclusion as soon as possible.

"Alan Shearer's reputation and record over many years have been impeccable. It's time now for events to run their course and for everyone who wants success in France to get off his back."

Keen that Shearer's status as England captain, and the player on which the country's World Cup hopes rest, was not seen to be above the law, the FA felt it had to act by calling him to account. Either way, though, officials knew they were walking into a political minefield and Hoddle's intervention will only strengthen the hand of Shearer's supporters, who feel that the FA have been heavy-handed.

Lennon has already called for the FA to drop the issue, which was not mentioned in the referee's report, and players have been queuing up to back the England captain.

The latest was Graeme Le Saux, the Chelsea and England defender, who said yesterday: "Alan won't let this affect him. He's a strong player. He's got over some horrific injuries and something like that would be more likely to affect him than some headlines or a slight discipline situation with the FA.

"It certainly won't affect any relationship he has with the national team or Glenn Hoddle. This all has to be kept in perspective. Sooner or later something like that is bound to happen to every player and because Alan has been caught out this time, it is over-exaggerated what he has been doing in previous seasons.

"You mustn't forget that when people play football, things like this do happen. As much as you try to be perfectly innocent throughout a game or a season, mistakes are made and you can let down your guard because you are playing a sport and you want to win."

Smith could stay on

WALTER SMITH yesterday indicated that he is almost certain to stay at Ibrox beyond the end of the season, despite officially stepping down as Rangers manager in the summer. His role is, as yet, unspecified.

Smith said: "I have been offered the opportunity to stay for a two-year period. The chairman [David Murray] wants me to stay and I am going to take it up." Smith will be replaced by Dick Advocaat, the Dutch manager of PSV Eindhoven, and said he will not interfere. "It is only right that Dick Advocaat has the freedom to run the club in the manner in which I did," he said.

Millwall, of the Nationwide League second division, have parted company with Billy Bonds, their manager. Theo Paphitis, the chairman, said: "It was certainly a hard decision to execute on the basis that I have the utmost admiration and respect for the man."

Wilkins goes, page 50

CHRISTOF STACHE



Rusedski plays a forehand volley during his straight-sets defeat by Ivanisevic in the German Open yesterday

Rusedski rushed towards exit

From Alix Ramsay in Hamburg

AT LEAST the end was swift. Greg Rusedski's battle with the slow, red clay was brought to its natural conclusion by Goran Ivanisevic in the third round of the German Open yesterday as the British No 1 was dismissed 6-4, 6-2. It took only 55 minutes and Rusedski's game faded almost as quickly as the light when the rain clouds gathered.

The omens had not been good from the start of the day. Finishing off his match with Emilio Alvarez, postponed from the night before after a day of rain, he never looked secure and even when he was serving for the match he had to save five break points. To struggle like that against the world No 136 did not bode well for a meeting with the No 23.

Rusedski had never beaten Ivanisevic in seven previous meetings although, in their last encounter, earlier in the year in the final of the Croatian Open, he had come close. Then Ivanisevic could find no way to break the fastest service in the world, but that was on a fast, carpet surface. Floundering on the treacherous clay, Rusedski never looked as though he believed he had a chance.

He started reasonably enough, dropping only one point in his first three service games and throwing in a sprinkling of aces. He even engineered a break point against Ivanisevic, but with the Croat peppering his play with some aces of his own, the chance was shortlived.

From then on Rusedski began to falter and he was broken in the seventh game of the first set. As the momentum swung firmly in Ivanisevic's favour, Rusedski had to save a further two break points two games later, finally winning the game with two aces. They were his last of the match.

There was a moment of hope when Rusedski broke for a 2-0 lead in the second set, but he was aided and abetted by Ivanisevic's lapse in concentration. Back on track, Ivanisevic broke straight back and that was the end of Rusedski. He was furious with himself as even his bread and butter shots failed to work and he lost the next six games.

To make matters worse, it was not as if Rusedski had lost to a natural clay court player. Ivanisevic likes to get things done quickly and is not known for his patience. The problem for Rusedski was believing he could win and as he, too, played faster and faster at least the pain was over before darkness fell.

Speed was not a consideration for either Alberto Berasategui or Felix Mantilla as they pounded away for more than 2½ hours, vying for a place in the quarter-finals. All appeared to be going well as Berasategui, the No 8 seed whistled through the first set, dismissing the No 9 seed 6-1. But that was just the beginning. Mantilla waited until the match appeared to be lost before fighting back.

The rallies became longer and longer and a third set loomed. Berasategui let eight match points come and go before Mantilla's legs seized up with cramp. After two spells of treatment, Mantilla saved one last match point to force a deciding tie-break and then, given one chance of his own, he literally limped through 1-6, 7-6, 7-6. He now plays Ivanisevic in the quarter-finals.

Michael Chang was beaten by Francisco Clavet, 6-3, 6-7, 6-2 and Richard Krajicek, the No 7 seed, was another who has had better days. He lost to Fabrice Santoro 7-5, 7-6.

Tennis results, page 51

Warne is facing a lengthy absence

By Simon Wilde

IF CRICKET captaincy is indeed 90 per cent luck and 10 per cent skill, it looks as though Alec Stewart may be lucky. Two days after his appointment as England captain, he received news that his predecessors, Michael Atherton and Graham Gooch, would have been delighted to hear: Shane Warne could miss the next Ashes series.

An exploratory operation on Warne's right shoulder yesterday found it to be in more serious condition than anticipated and the leg-spin bowler had to undergo extensive reconstruction of damaged cartilage and ligaments.

"The doctors have to take a conservative approach and say Shane could be out for between six to 12 months," a cricket official from Victoria, Warne's state side, said.

Warne, disappointed at the outcome, said: "It is worse than I had hoped but I just have to do all the right things from now on to get it right and get back on the field."

The first of England's five Test matches starts in Brisbane on November 20, which means that if the optimistic end of the medical forecast is met Warne could conceivably play, albeit while short of match practice.

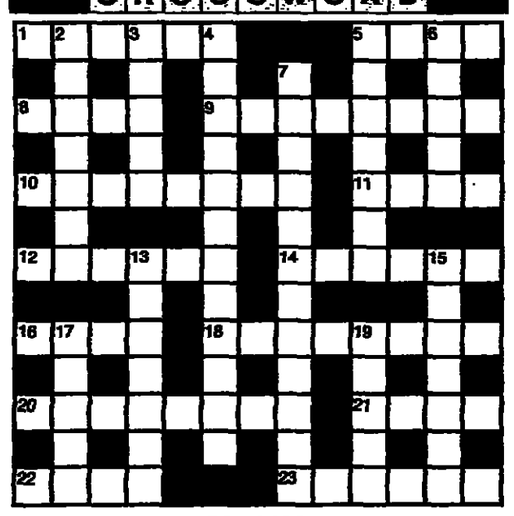
But if he is out of action for a year, he would miss the Ashes series and Australia's later tour of the West Indies. It had already been expected that he would be unavailable for the Commonwealth Games and tour of Pakistan that will precede England's visit.

To rest his shoulder, Warne sat out a one-day tournament in New Zealand in February, but struggled on the subsequent tour of India, where his ten Test wickets cost 50 runs apiece. He last took the field two weeks ago in Sharjah, where he played despite a heavy fall on the shoulder. Doctors told him yesterday that if he had played a few more games before surgery, his shoulder could have "fallen apart", ending his career.

England, though, would be wise to not get carried away. "The doctors told me that if the rehabilitation goes well, the shoulder will eventually be better than brand new, so there is no reason why I could not have another five years playing for Australia," Warne said.

Durham qualify, page 52

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1400

ACROSS
1 Habit, practice (6)
5 *Prank* (4)
8 Gratis: unrestrained (4)
9 Memento (8)
10 Anguish, pain (8)
11 A mountain goat (4)
12 Ardently excited (6)
14 Subtle shade of meaning (6)
16 Free-post mark (1,1,1,1): resistance units (4)
18 Support: aver (8)
20 Eruption (of nasty things) (8)
21 Related, similar (4)
22 Case: carpenter's tool (4)
23 *Steering lever: farmworker?* (6)

DOWN
2 Kiev its capital (7)
3 *Stealing* (5)
4 Just cope (financially) (4,4,4)
5 Shylock's daughter *(M of V)* (7)
6 Superior type of tea (5)
7 Commuter's pass (6,6)
13 *In sight* (7)
15 Style of cooking (7)
17 A paradise lovely (Muslim) (5)
19 Be behind: path (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 1399
ACROSS: 1 Casual 4 Floret 8 Vile 9 Southpaw 10 Rhapsodic 13 Oddly 15 Buxom 16 Basis 18 Clearance 21 Cautious 22 Port 23 Treaty 24 Nearby
DOWN: 1 Cavort 2 Syllabus 3 Lasso 5 Latecomer 6 Rapt 7 Tawdry 11 Subscript 12 Dixie 14 Downpour 16 Big cat 17 Vestry 19 Arson 20 Fume

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Tours in doubt as Luyt causes uproar by refusing to resign

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

THE tours to be made to South Africa by Ireland and Wales this month are unlikely to go ahead after the utter confusion into which South African rugby was thrown last night. The refusal of Louis Luyt, the autocratic president of the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu), to resign has created the likelihood of intense unrest should visiting sides go ahead with matches.

Officially, representatives of the Irish and Welsh rugby unions, as well as England, who are due to play a single international against South Africa on July 4 in Cape Town, would only say that they would wait for an official communiqué from either Sarfu or the South African Government before commenting on whether the tours would take place.

Unofficially, they will realise that to tour in an atmosphere of civil protest, redolent of the apartheid era, would be unthinkable. In the early 1980s, both Ireland and England visited South Africa against the wishes of their respective Governments, but the political complexion has changed completely. Leading officials from all three unions were wrapped in talks yesterday — admittedly relating to domestic matters — but the Welsh have already postponed the scheduled release today of their tour party to play five matches (one international) in South Africa.

In any case, the Welsh have problems far closer to home. They have yet to confirm Kevin Bowring as coach for the tour and up to the 1999 World Cup, and there is speculation that he may be replaced after a disappointing Five Nations Championship. Several leading players are unavailable to tour and the leading clubs are in dispute with the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), whose general committee met last night.

Ireland, who named their party ten days ago and are due to leave on May 24 for seven matches (two internationals), have no contingency plans in place but are keen to give Warren Gatland, their newly-appointed coach, the chance of a tour so that he can develop his approach with the leading players. In the circumstances, however, Gatland might feel that limited progress would be made in such an atmosphere.

The leader of South Africa's biggest labour federation has already threatened mass action if Sarfu does not accede to the demands of the National Sports Council (NSC), which sought the resignation of Luyt and his executive committee. The NSC will hold emergency talks today after the dramatic outcome of the Sarfu council meeting in Johannesburg, which voted Luyt out of the presidency but found him refusing to go upon the technical grounds that the necessary formalities had not taken place that would have allowed a vote to be held.

Whether that situation, which led to the resignation of four executive committee members — among them Silas Nkanunu, the senior vice-president, and Tobie Titus, the junior vice-president — will be resolved by the time England are due in Cape Town, remains to be seen. It would be no hardship to England were they to abandon the international there, which comes after a demanding six-match visit to Australia and New Zealand, where they will have played three internationals.

But, as matters stand, any confirmation by British teams of their tour arrangements should be put on hold until Sarfu has resolved its own difficulties. It defies belief that Luyt should stand against the wishes of eight of the 12 executive committee members and seven of the 14 provinces, given the damage this will do to his sport. That, though, appears to be his intention.



Bowring: no decision

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